



# Gun Owners of America

Rachel Malone, Texas Director  
 512-937-3006  
 rachel.malone@gunowners.org

Felisha Bull, Texas Deputy Director  
 832-622-8781  
 fbull@gunowners.org

## HB 1927: Constitutional Carry

Author: Rep. Schaefer | Sponsor: Sen. Schwertner

### PRIORITY SUPPORT

#### Current law:

- Generally bans handgun carry outside of one's home or vehicle (PC 46.02).
- Those with a License To Carry may carry handguns openly or concealed.
- To apply for a license (LTC), one must be 21 (or 18-20 and military), eligible to purchase a firearm under state and federal law, and meet other requirements listed in Texas Government Code 411.172.
  - For example, if you are behind on taxes or child support, you are ineligible to apply for an LTC.

#### What this bill does:

- Allows those age 21+ who can legally possess a handgun to carry a handgun, open or concealed, without a License to Carry (LTC)
- Maintains the LTC system as an option (helpful for purchase & reciprocity).

#### Top reasons to support HB 1927:

- Recognize Texans' right to carry handguns without asking for permission.
- Repeal undue barriers to carrying a handgun - a defensive tool to save lives.
- Violent crime rates go down in states that pass Constitutional Carry (per data from several states in a 5-year period after passing the bill).
- People tend to voluntarily get more training even when it's not required.
- Level the playing field between everyday Texans and criminals.
- Don't criminalize peaceful carry of a handgun in a holster.

#### This bill does NOT:

HB 1927 does **not** change who can possess a firearm.

HB 1927 does **not** affect purchase of firearms.

HB 1927 does **not** abolish the LTC program.

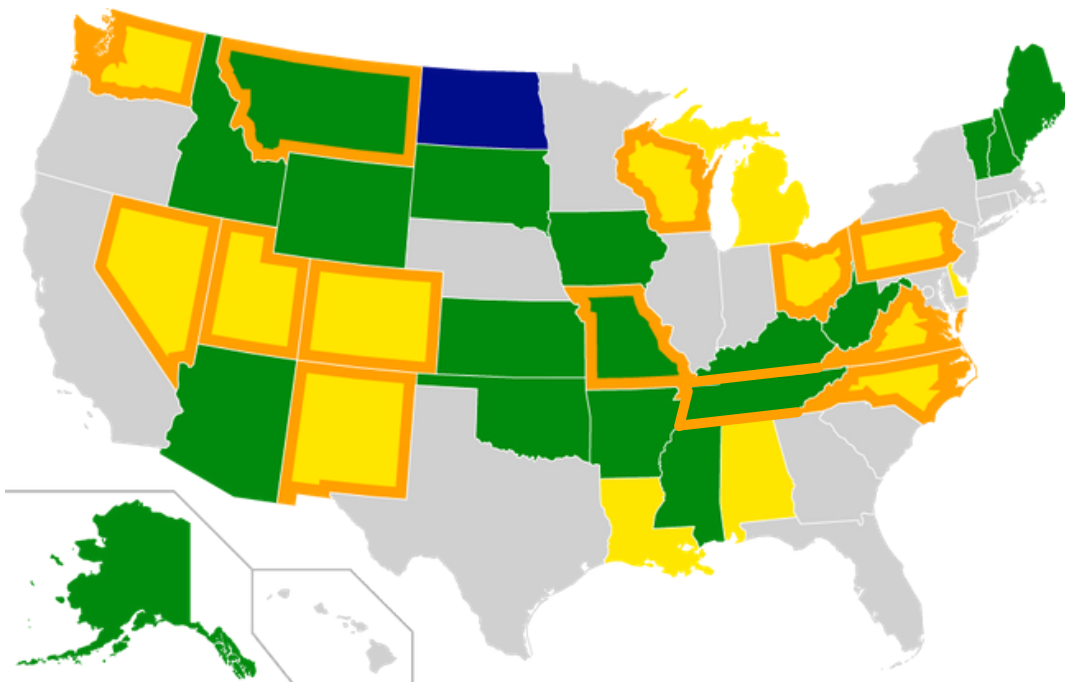
HB 1927 does **not** allow permitless campus carry.

HB 1927 does **not** repeal the prohibited places for LTC or permitless carry.

**20 states recognize Constitutional Carry – including four states added in 2021. It's time for Texas to get on board!**

Legal gun owners can carry a handgun without a permit . . .

- openly or concealed
- openly only
- concealed
- with regulations
- no permitless carry



# Constitutional Carry States See Decreased Rates of Violent Crime

Study from 2019 showing crime statistics for the three states that had enacted Constitutional Carry at least 5 years prior (Arizona, Alaska, Wyoming)

Crime Rate	Average Rates 5 years before Constitutional Carry/100,000 people	Average Rates 5 Years After Constitutional Carry/100,000 people	Change in Crime Rate/100K people
<b>Violent crime</b>	<b>447.0</b>	<b>425.5</b>	<b>-21.5</b>
<b>Murder</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>-0.8</b>
<b>Rape</b>	<b>45.8</b>	<b>43.8</b>	<b>-2.0</b>
<b>Robbery</b>	<b>82.2</b>	<b>64.8</b>	<b>-17.4</b>
<b>Aggravated Assault</b>	<b>300.3</b>	<b>292.8</b>	<b>-7.5</b>
<b>Property Crime</b>	<b>3,648.2</b>	<b>2,931.9</b>	<b>-716.2</b>
<b>Burglary</b>	<b>658.3</b>	<b>531.5</b>	<b>-126.8</b>
<b>Larceny</b>	<b>2,561.6</b>	<b>2,158.7</b>	<b>-402.9</b>
<b>Vehicle Theft</b>	<b>428.3</b>	<b>241.8</b>	<b>-186.5</b>

Data compiled by Dr. John Lott, Crime Prevention Research Center, crimeresearch.org

# Constitutional Carry States See Increased Permits & Voluntary Training

Data from Arizona, the most populated state with the longest track record of Constitutional Carry:

- In 2011, the first full year that the law was in effect, approximately **3.6% of the population** was licensed to carry a handgun.
- There were approximately 163,000 active carry permits in the state, which had a population of 4.5 million at the time  
*Source: U.S. General Accountability Office*
- As of February 2021, approximately **5.3% of the population** was licensed to carry a handgun.
- There were 388,716 active carry permits in the state, which had a population in 2020 of 7.279 million.  
*Source: Arizona Department of Public Safety*

Conclusion: In the ten years after passing Constitutional Carry, Arizona doubled the number of permits and increased the percentage of its population which is licensed. Arizona's permit application process includes a training component. Therefore, even when training was not required, Arizonans still sought out a training and a permit - in increased numbers.

See more information in the 4/13/21 Joint Statement from Chairman James White and State Rep. Matt Schaefer, <https://house.texas.gov/news/press-releases/?id=7430>