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GUN LAW TRENDWATCH

A roundup and analysis of the latest state firearms legislation.

POSITIVE TRENDS

The Oregon background check bill, SB 941, is heading to the Senate floor. The bill would require point-of-sale background checks for unlicensed firearms sales in Oregon, closing the most fundamental loophole in our nation's gun laws. The bill was passed by the Senate Judiciary Committee and is expected to be approved by the full Senate this week.

We reported on a dangerous Iowa bill in the *March 16 Trendwatch*. HB 527, which the Iowa House of Representatives passed in early March, would have allowed unlicensed individuals to sell handguns without ever conducting a background check. The bill would also have allowed children of any age to use handguns and would have repealed the three-day waiting period for handgun permit holders. **After a coordinated effort by Iowa activists as well as national gun violence prevention groups, including the Law Center, the Senate version of the bill was passed with none of the dangerous provisions in place.** Although the House has continued to push for the original version of the bill, the Senate has indicated it will stand firm.

Montana Governor Steve Bullock vetoed dangerous legislation that would have allowed loaded guns to be carried in public without a permit. The governor called the measure “an absurd concept that threatens the safety of our communities by not providing for the basic fundamentals of gun safety or mental health screening.” Governor Bullock also vetoed a bill that would have prohibited enforcement in Montana of any future federal ban on firearms or ammunition.

ISSUES AND BILLS

CONCEALED CARRY (NO PERMIT)

CO S 32, GA H 543, ID H 89, IN H 1144, KS S 45, ME S 245, MN S 684, MS H 1272, MT H 298, MT H 533, NH H 582, NH S 116, OK H 1264, OK H 1325, OK S 363, PA H 230, SC S 105, SC H 3716, SD H 1108, SD H 1116, TN H 535, TN H 684, TN S 780, TN S 784, TX H 195, TX S 342

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

AL H 47, AZ S 1269, CT S 56, CT H 5069, CT S 650, H 6848, HI H 402, HI H 625, HI H 1199, HI S 462, IL H 265, IL H 3358, IN H 1295, KS H 2206, KY H 8, ME H 413, MD S 530, MO H 492, MO H 418, MO H 646, NJ S 2786, NV S 175, NY A 249, NY A 373, NY A 5257, NY S 1413, NY S 1461, NY S 1493, OK H 1329, OR S 525, RI H 5119, RI H 5655, RI S 503, RI S 511, RI S 520, RI H 5872, SC H 3034, SC S 3, WA S 5381

GUN VIOLENCE RESTRAINING ORDER

IL S 1864, IL H 3160, KS H 2206, KS H 2375, MO H 646, MN H 1361, MN S 1289, NJ A 3370, NY A 4277, TX S 1006, WA S 5727, WA H 1857

PRIVATE SALE BACKGROUND CHECKS

AZ H 2118, AZ HCR 2009, AZ S 1269, AZ H 2601, IA H 77, IL H 1405, IL S 1490, KS S 25, MO H 347, MT D 608, NJ A 1800, NJ S 2785, NY S 2445, SC H 3033, TX S 258, TX S 259, TX 2190, VT S 31

OTHER BILLS TO WATCH

Guns Everywhere: ND H 1241, H 1450
Handgun Permit Repeal: NC H 562
Open Carry: TX S 17
Preemption: NE L 289
Stand Your Ground: AR H 1240, IA H 92, NV S 175

NEGATIVE TRENDS

Governor Brownback of Kansas has signed a bill into law that allows loaded, hidden guns to be carried in public without a permit. **This makes Kansas the fifth state (along with Alaska, Arizona, Vermont and Wyoming) to allow firearms to be carried concealed in public with no oversight.**

Despite the numerous safety concerns expressed by opponents, Florida legislators are sending SB 290 to Governor Rick Scott. If signed, this bill will allow individuals to carry loaded firearms in public without a permit during a mandatory evacuation order. This measure would create a precarious situation by allowing individuals who have not been granted a permit to be armed in emergency shelters and on the streets during a crisis.

The Nevada Assembly has approved Assembly Bill 148 which would allow concealed carry permit holders to carry firearms on the campuses of colleges and universities. **Nevada is one of 15 states that have introduced similar measures this year.**

The Texas Legislature is considering a bill that would prohibit a physician other than a psychiatrist from asking a patient whether a firearm is located or stored in the patient's home or on other property he or she owns. If enacted, physicians would face disciplinary action for asking a patient about firearms in violation of the statute. Two other states, Indiana and Pennsylvania, have introduced bills that would interfere with the patient-provider relationship by restricting communication about firearms.

BILLS TO WATCH

A North Carolina bill was recently introduced that would repeal the requirement to obtain a permit-to-purchase or concealed carry permit prior to purchasing a handgun. Both permits require a state and federal background check. By repealing the requirement, purchasers would be able to buy firearms from unlicensed sellers without ever passing a background check. HB 562 is expected to be heard in committee this week.

To see the status of other gun bills moving in state legislatures, as well as maps on the trending issues in state gun bills, check out smartgunlaws.org/trendwatch.

ABOUT THE LAW CENTER TO PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE

Founded in the wake of the July 1, 1993, assault weapon massacre at 101 California Street in San Francisco that left eight dead and six wounded, the Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence is now the premier resource for legal expertise and information regarding state and federal firearms laws. We track and analyze gun laws in all 50 states, file amicus briefs in Second Amendment cases across the country, and work with lawmakers and advocates to craft and promote legislation that will reduce gun violence and save lives. We regularly partner with law firms and nonprofit organizations dedicated to combating the epidemic of gun violence in our country, and we invite you to learn more about our work by visiting our website or connecting with us on social media.