



What Federally Mandated Concealed Carry Reciprocity would mean for Minnesota

Lawmakers on Capitol Hill are debating a bill that would force each state to recognize the concealed carry laws of every other state.

Currently, states have the right to choose which states' concealed carry permits they recognize, which is important because the requirements to carry hidden, loaded guns in public vary drastically from state to state. If the concealed carry reciprocity bill passes, that will no longer be the case, and **Minnesota will be forced to allow unlicensed, unvetted people from out of state to carry concealed guns in public places.**

As of today, 12 states, including Minnesota's neighbor North Dakota, do **not** require any permit or training to carry hidden, loaded guns in public. If this bill becomes federal law, almost any person from these states would be **automatically authorized** to carry concealed in Minnesota, regardless of whether that person meets Minnesota's standards for what it takes to carry a concealed gun in public, such as having passed a background check.

Current Minnesota law only allows individuals from states with concealed carry permitting laws similar to Minnesota's to carry within the state. If the concealed carry reciprocity bill passes, Minnesota would be federally mandated to honor the weak or nonexistent concealed carry standards of other states, like Wisconsin, **making Minnesota less safe and putting law enforcement at risk.**

REQUIREMENTS TO CARRY CONCEALED IN...

	MINNESOTA	WISCONSIN
Must demonstrate competency in using a firearm?	Each time a person renews a permit, he or she must successfully complete an official shooting qualification exercise within the last year.	The training requirement only applies for the initial permit application and may not require successfully firing a gun.
Must NOT be a threat to public safety?	The sheriff has the authority to deny a permit based on any substantial likelihood that the applicant would be a danger to herself, himself or others if authorized to carry a handgun. The sheriff must give the local chief of police the opportunity to provide relevant information.	The Wisconsin Department of Justice is required to issue a permit so long as the person is not currently charged with a crime, has never been convicted of a felony or domestic violence misdemeanor, and is not subject to a restraining order. Local law enforcement has NO opportunity to weigh in.
Must NOT be affiliated with a criminal gang?	A person is not eligible for a permit if they are currently listed in the criminal gang investigative data system, or if they have been convicted of a crime for the benefit of a gang at the gross misdemeanor level within the last 3 years.	Law enforcement has NO authority to prevent a violent person from carrying concealed, absent convictions for felonies, domestic violence, or pending criminal charges.
Must NOT have a recent history of illegal drug use?	A person who has been convicted of a drug misdemeanor within the past 3 years is not eligible for a permit.	Applicants with misdemeanor convictions related to controlled substances are eligible for permits.