



WHAT FEDERALLY MANDATED CONCEALED CARRY RECIPROCITY WOULD MEAN FOR WASHINGTON

Lawmakers on Capitol Hill are debating a bill that would force each state to recognize the concealed carry laws of every other state, putting Washington's public safety at risk.

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 **Washington will be forced to allow unlicensed, unvetted people from out of state to carry guns in public places.**

As of today, 29 states—including nearby Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming—**do not require** any permit 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 Washington, regardless of whether that person meets Washington's standards for what it takes to carry a concealed gun in public.

Current Washington law does not allow those with concealed carry permits issued by other states to carry in Washington unless they meet certain standards. If the concealed carry reciprocity bill passes, **Washington would be federally mandated to honor the weak or nonexistent concealed carry standards of other states, making Washington less safe and putting law enforcement at risk.**

| REQUIREMENTS TO CARRY CONCEALED IN... | | |
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| | WASHINGTON | MONTANA |
| Must have a license? | ✓ Washington prohibits the carrying of a concealed handgun without a license except in a person's home or place of business. | ✗ Although Montana offers a "concealed weapon permit," a person does NOT need this permit to carry a loaded, concealed handgun in public. |
| Must pass a background check? | ✓ An applicant for a concealed pistol license must pass a mandatory fingerprint-based background check for criminal and mental health history. | ✗ A person does not need to go through any background check or any other vetting process to purchase a handgun or carry it, loaded or unloaded, in public. |
| Must NOT have been flagged as an extreme risk? | ✓ Family members and law enforcement officers can seek extreme risk orders to remove gun access from a person at risk, who is then not eligible for a license. | ✗ There is NO way for a family member or law enforcement officer to prevent a person at risk from obtaining or carrying a gun, unless they are arrested or subjected to a mental health or drug finding. |
| Must NOT have a criminal record? | ✓ A person is not eligible for a license if they've been convicted of misdemeanor stalking, harassment, unlawful carrying or handling of a firearm, or violating a protective order. | ✗ A person can carry a concealed handgun in public even if convicted of a violent misdemeanor, so long as it wasn't domestic violence under a narrow federal law and didn't involve a weapon. |