



126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2013

Legislative Document

No. 1022

H.P. 721

House of Representatives, March 14, 2013

An Act To Improve Training Requirements for Obtaining a Concealed Handgun Permit

Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative JOHNSON of Greenville.
Cosponsored by Representatives: CROCKETT of Bethel, McCABE of Skowhegan.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 25 MRSA §2003, sub-§1, ¶E,** as amended by PL 2011, c. 298, §7, is
3 further amended to read:

4 E. Does the following:

5 (1) At the request of the issuing authority, takes whatever action is required by
6 law to allow the issuing authority to obtain from the Department of Health and
7 Human Services, limited to records of patient committals to Riverview
8 Psychiatric Center and Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center, the courts, law
9 enforcement agencies and the military information relevant to the following:

10 (a) The ascertainment of whether the information supplied on the application
11 or any documents made a part of the application is true and correct;

12 (b) The ascertainment of whether each of the additional requirements of this
13 section has been met; and

14 (c) Section 2005;

15 (2) If a photograph is an integral part of the permit to carry concealed handguns
16 adopted by an issuing authority, submits to being photographed for that purpose;

17 (3) If it becomes necessary to resolve any questions as to identity, submits to
18 having fingerprints taken by the issuing authority;

19 (4) Submits an application fee along with the written application to the proper
20 issuing authority pursuant to the following schedule:

21 (a) Resident of a municipality or unorganized territory, \$35 for an original
22 application and \$20 for a renewal, except that a person who paid \$60 for a
23 concealed firearms permit or renewal during 1991 or 1992 is entitled to a
24 credit toward renewal fees in an amount equal to \$30 for a person who paid
25 \$60 for an original application and \$45 for a person who paid \$60 for a
26 permit renewal. The credit is valid until fully utilized; and

27 (b) Nonresident, \$60 for an original or renewal application; and

28 (5) Demonstrates to the issuing authority a knowledge possession of defensive
29 handgun safety skills and a knowledge of applicable provisions of this Title and
30 Title 17-A as determined by the issuing authority. For purposes of this
31 subparagraph, "defensive handgun skills" includes using safety procedures when
32 operating a handgun, demonstrating firing a minimum of 50 rounds of
33 ammunition with a handgun and possessing an understanding of the
34 consequences of handgun use in self-defense. The applicant may fully satisfy
35 this requirement by submitting to the issuing authority, through documentation in
36 accordance with this subparagraph, proof that the applicant has within 5 years
37 prior to the date of application completed a course that included defensive
38 handgun safety skills and instruction in the applicable criminal laws of the State
39 as required by this subparagraph offered by or under the supervision of a federal,
40 state, county or municipal law enforcement agency or a firearms instructor
41 certified by a private firearms association recognized as knowledgeable in

1 matters of defensive handgun safety skills by the issuing authority or by the state
2 in which the course was taken. A course completion certificate or other
3 document, or a photocopy, is sufficient if it recites or otherwise demonstrates that
4 the course meets all of the requirements of this subparagraph.

5 As an alternative way of fully satisfying this requirement, an applicant may
6 personally demonstrate knowledge of defensive handgun safety skills to an
7 issuing authority, if the issuing authority is willing to evaluate an applicant's
8 personal demonstration of such knowledge. The issuing authority is not required
9 to offer this 2nd option.

10 The demonstration of knowledge of defensive handgun safety skills to the issuing
11 authority may not be required of any applicant who holds a valid state permit to
12 carry a concealed firearm as of April 15, 1990 or of any applicant who was or is
13 in any of the Armed Forces of the United States and has received at least basic
14 firearms training.

15 **SUMMARY**

16 This bill amends the training requirements to obtain a permit to carry a concealed
17 handgun by requiring an applicant to demonstrate possession of defensive handgun skills,
18 including the safe operating of a handgun and demonstrating firing 50 rounds of
19 ammunition with a handgun, and a knowledge of the applicable provisions of the criminal
20 laws of the State.