

6.1.15

GUN LAW TRENDWATCH

A roundup and analysis of the latest state firearms legislation.

POSITIVE TRENDS

Domestic violence bills have been making their way through legislatures across the country in recent days. Legislators in South Carolina have sent SB 3 to Governor Nikki Haley for her signature. The bill would restrict access to firearms by domestic abusers for varying lengths of time depending on the severity of the crimes committed.

Nevada SB 175, which would prohibit a domestic violence misdemeanor from owning or possessing a firearm, has been sent to Governor Sandoval for his signature. The bill also contains numerous negative provisions (discussed in the Negative Trends section below).

Oregon's SB 525, which would prohibit firearm possession by domestic violence misdemeanants and the subjects of orders of protection, passed the Senate on May 21.

A domestic violence bill is pending in Connecticut and two additional domestic violence bills, New Jersey AB 4218 and Delaware SB 83, have been set for hearings on June 1 and June 10 respectively.

Last week, a bill to allow concealed carry without a permit and a bill that would have expanded concealed carry reciprocity died in South Carolina. Lawmakers did not act on a campus carry bill introduced earlier this year, and the South Carolina legislature adjourns this week.

ISSUES AND BILLS

CONCEALED CARRY (NO PERMIT)

COS 32, GA H 543, IN H 1144, KS S 45, ME S 245, MN S 684, MS H 1272, NH H 582, NH S 116, OK H 1264, OK H 1325, OKS 363, PA H 230, SCS 105, SCH 3716, TN H 535, TN H 684, TN S 780, TN S 784, TX H 195, TX S 342

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

AL H 47, 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, WI LRB 1710

OTHER BILLS TO WATCH

Open Carry: TX S 11

Preemption: NE L 289

Stand Your Ground: NV S 175

Waiting Period Repeal: WI S 35

NEGATIVE TRENDS

As mentioned above, Nevada legislators have sent SB 175 to Governor Sandoval. **Despite the positive domestic violence provision mentioned above, the bill is primarily made up of provisions that would weaken firearms regulation.** The bill expands the state's stand your ground law, ends firearm registration in Clark County, and expands recognition of out-of-state concealed carry permits. Fortunately, prior to final passage, an attempt to add a campus carry provision to the bill failed. A new campus carry bill, AB 487, was introduced as an emergency measure in the Assembly on May 22 and has passed the Assembly.

In Texas, two gun lobby bills, SB 11, which allows campus carry, and HB 910, which allows firearms to be carried openly, have been the subject of much debate in the past several months. The bills have been somewhat watered down compared to their original versions. Both bills have now been sent to Governor Greg Abbott who is expected to sign both measures. **Notably, Texas is the only state of the 15 that introduced campus carry legislation this year to move a bill through both chambers, despite the gun lobby's concerted focus on campus carry this year.**

Maine's LD 652/SB245, which would allow concealed carry without a permit, passed the Senate last week. A vote in the House is expected as early as this week and it appears that Governor LePage supports the measure.

BILLS TO WATCH

The Law Center, along with other national and state activists, continues to closely monitor North Carolina HB 562. This gun lobby bill would repeal the requirement to pass a background check and obtain a permit prior to purchasing a handgun, restrict health care provider communication with patients regarding firearms, and allow stalking misdemeanants to obtain a CCW permit after three years, among other dangerous provisions. The bill has passed the House and is currently in the Senate Rules Committee. The North Carolina Sheriffs' Association publicly opposes the bill.

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.