

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 47th Legislature (2000)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR  
SENATE BILL 1496

By: Shurden

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to Self Defense Act; amending 21 O.S. 1991, Section 10, Chapter 272, O.S.L. 1995, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 358, O.S.L. 1997, Section 11, Chapter 272, O.S.L. 1995, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 415, O.S.L. 1999, Section 12, Chapter 272, O.S.L. 1995, as last amended by Section 3, Chapter 415, O.S.L. 1999, and Section 25, Chapter 272, O.S.L. 1995 (21 O.S. Supp. 1999, Sections 1290.10, 1290.11, 1290.12 and 1290.25), which relate to mandatory preclusions, other preclusions, procedure for application, and legislative intent; making domestic abuse grounds for license preclusion; providing additional preclusions; making involuntary commitment a permanent preclusion; clarifying certain term; expanding legislative intent; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 10, Chapter 272, O.S.L. 1995, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 358, O.S.L. 1997 (21 O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 1290.10), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1290.10

MANDATORY PRECLUSIONS

In addition to the requirements stated in Section 1290.9 of this title, the conditions stated in this section shall preclude a person from eligibility for a handgun license pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act, Section 1290.1 et seq. of this title. The occurrence of any one of the following conditions shall deny the person the right to have a handgun license pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act. Prohibited conditions are:

1. Ineligible to possess a pistol due to any felony conviction or adjudication as a delinquent as provided by Section 1283 of this title, except as provided in subsection B of Section 1283 of this title;

2. Any felony conviction pursuant to any law of another state, a felony conviction pursuant to any provision of the United States Code, or any conviction pursuant to the laws of any foreign country, provided such foreign conviction would constitute a felony offense in this state if the offense had been committed in this state, except as provided in subsection B of Section 1283 of this title;

3. Adjudication as an incompetent person pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Mental Health Law, Section 1-101 et seq. of Title 43A of the Oklahoma Statutes or an adjudication of incompetency entered in another state pursuant to any provision of law of that state;

4. Any false or misleading statement on the application for a handgun license as provided by paragraph 5 of Section 1290.12 of this title;

5. Conviction of any one of the following misdemeanor offenses in this state or in any other state:

- a. any assault and battery which caused serious physical injury to the victim, or any second or subsequent assault and battery conviction,
- b. any aggravated assault and battery,
- c. any stalking pursuant to Section 1173 of this title, or a similar law of another state,
- d. an act of domestic abuse prohibited by Section 644 of this title, a violation ~~relating~~ of a final protective order pursuant to the Protection from Domestic Abuse Act, Section 60 et seq. of Title 22 of the Oklahoma Statutes, or any comparative violation of a victim protection order ~~under the laws~~ of another state, or

e. any conviction relating to illegal drug use or possession;

6. An attempted suicide or other condition relating to or indicating mental instability or an unsound mind which occurred within the preceding ten-year period from the date of the application for a license to carry a concealed firearm or that occurs during the period of licensure;

7. Currently undergoing treatment for a mental illness, condition, or disorder. For purposes of this paragraph, "currently undergoing treatment for a mental illness, condition, or disorder" means the person has been diagnosed by a licensed physician as being afflicted with a substantial disorder of thought, mood, perception, psychological orientation, or memory that significantly impairs judgment, behavior, capacity to recognize reality, or ability to meet the ordinary demands of life;

8. Significant character defects of the applicant as evidenced by a misdemeanor criminal record indicating habitual criminal activity; ~~or~~

9. Ineligible to possess a pistol due to any provision of law of this state or the United States Code, except as provided in subsection B of Section 1283 of this title;

10. Failure to pay an assessed fine or surrender the handgun license as required by a decision by the administrative hearing examiner pursuant to authority of the Oklahoma Self Defense Act;

11. Being subject to an outstanding felony warrant issued in this state or another state or the United States; or

12. Adjudication as a delinquent as provided by Section 1283 of this title, except as provided in subsection B of Section 1283 of this title.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY Section 11, Chapter 272, O.S.L. 1995, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 415, O.S.L. 1999 (21 O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 1290.11), is amended to read as follows:

OTHER PRECLUSIONS

A. The following conditions shall preclude a person from being eligible for a concealed handgun license pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act, Section 1290.1 et seq. of this title, for a period of time as prescribed in each of the following paragraphs:

1. An arrest for an alleged commission of a felony offense or a felony charge pending in this state, another state or pursuant to the United States Code. The preclusive period shall be until the final determination of the matter. If a conviction is imposed, the person shall be permanently precluded from a handgun license;

2. The person is subject to the provisions of a deferred sentence or deferred prosecution in this state or another state or pursuant to federal authority for the commission of a felony offense. The preclusive period shall be three (3) years and shall begin upon the final determination of the matter;

3. Any involuntary commitment for a mental illness, condition, or disorder pursuant to the provisions of Section ~~5-401~~ 5-410 of Title 43A of the Oklahoma Statutes or any involuntary commitment in another state pursuant to any provisions of law of that state. ~~The preclusive period shall be three (3) years from the last date of treatment or discharge from commitment, whichever is longer, or upon presentation of a certified statement from a licensed physician stating that the person is no longer disabled by any mental or psychiatric illness, condition, or disorder~~ preclusive period shall be permanent as provided by Title 18 of the United States Code Section 922(g) (4);

4. The person has previously undergone treatment for a mental illness, condition, or disorder which required medication or supervision as defined by paragraph 7 of Section 1290.10 of this title. The preclusive period shall be three (3) years from the last

date of treatment or upon presentation of a certified statement from a licensed physician stating that the person is either no longer disabled by any mental or psychiatric illness, condition, or disorder or that the person has been stabilized on medication for ten (10) years or more;

5. Inpatient treatment for substance abuse. The preclusive period shall be three (3) years from the last date of treatment or upon presentation of a certified statement from a licensed physician stating that the person has been free from substance use for twelve (12) months or more preceding the filing of an application for a handgun license;

6. Two or more convictions of public intoxication pursuant to Section 8 of Title 37 of the Oklahoma Statutes, or a similar law of another state. The preclusive period shall be three (3) years from the date of the completion of the last sentence;

7. Two or more misdemeanor convictions relating to intoxication or driving under the influence of an intoxicating substance or alcohol. The preclusive period shall be three (3) years from the date of the completion of the last sentence and shall require a certified statement from a licensed physician stating that the person is not in need of substance abuse treatment;

8. A court order for a final Victim Protection Order against the applicant, as authorized by Section 60 et seq. of Title 22 of the Oklahoma Statutes, or any court order granting a final victim protection order against the applicant from another state. The preclusive period shall be three (3) years from the date of the entry of the final court order, or sixty (60) days from the date an order was vacated, cancelled or withdrawn;

9. An adjudicated delinquent or convicted felon residing in the residence of the applicant which may be a violation of Section 1283 of this title. The preclusive period shall be thirty (30) days from

the date the person no longer resides in the same residence as the applicant; or

10. An arrest for an alleged commission of, a charge pending for, or the person is subject to the provisions of a deferred sentence or a deferred prosecution for any one or more of the following misdemeanor offenses in this state or another state:

- a. any assault and battery which caused serious physical injury to the victim or any second or subsequent assault and battery,
- b. any aggravated assault and battery,
- c. any stalking pursuant to Section 1173 of this title, or a similar law of another state,
- d. an act of domestic abuse prohibited by Section 644 of this title, any violation of a final protective order pursuant to the Protection from Domestic Abuse Act, Section 60 et seq. of Title 22 of the Oklahoma Statutes, or any comparative violation of a victim protection order under the laws of another state, or
- e. any violation relating to illegal drug use or possession.

The preclusive period for this paragraph shall be three (3) years and shall begin upon the final determination of the matter.

B. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a full investigation of the applicant by the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation.

SECTION 3. AMENDATORY Section 12, Chapter 272, O.S.L. 1995, as last amended by Section 3, Chapter 415, O.S.L. 1999 (21 O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 1290.12), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1290.12

#### PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATION

A. The procedure for applying for a concealed handgun license and processing the application shall be as follows:

1. An eligible person may request an application packet for a concealed handgun license from the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation or the county sheriff's office either in person or by mail. The Bureau may provide application packets to each sheriff not exceeding two hundred packets per request. The Bureau shall provide the following information in the application packet:

- a. an application form,
- b. procedures to follow to process the application form,  
and
- c. a copy of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act with any  
modifications thereto;

2. The person shall be required to successfully complete a firearms safety and training course from a firearms instructor who is approved and registered in this state as provided in Section 1290.14 of this title, and the person shall be required to demonstrate competency and qualification with a pistol authorized for concealed carry by the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act. The original certificate of training shall be submitted with the application for a handgun license. No duplicate, copy, facsimile or other reproduction of the certificate of training or exemption from training shall be acceptable as proof of training as required by the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act. A person exempt from the training requirements as provided in Section 1290.15 of this title must show the required proof of such exemption to the firearms instructor to receive an exemption certificate. The original exemption certificate must be submitted with the application for a handgun license when the person claims an exemption from training and qualification;

3. The application form shall be completed and delivered by the applicant, in person, to the sheriff of the county wherein the applicant resides;

4. The person shall deliver to the sheriff at the time of delivery of the completed application form a fee of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) for processing the application through the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation and processing the required fingerprints through the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The processing fee shall be in the form of:

- a. a money order or a cashier's check made payable to the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation, or
- b. by a nationally recognized credit card issued to the applicant. For purposes of this paragraph, "nationally recognized credit card" means any instrument or device, whether known as a credit card, credit plate, charge plate, or by any other name, issued with or without fee by the issuer for the use of the cardholder in obtaining goods, services, or anything else of value on credit which is accepted by over one thousand merchants in the state. The Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation shall determine which nationally recognized credit cards will be accepted by the Bureau.

The processing fee shall not be refundable in the event of a denial of a handgun license or any suspension or revocation subsequent to the issuance of a license. Persons making application for a firearms instructor shall not be required to pay the application fee as provided in this section, but shall be required to pay the costs provided in paragraphs 6 and 8 of this subsection;

5. The completed application form shall be signed by the applicant in person before the sheriff. The signature shall be given voluntarily upon a sworn oath that the person knows the contents of the application and that the information contained in the application is true and correct. Any person making any false or misleading statement on an application for a handgun license shall,

upon conviction, be guilty of perjury as defined by Section 491 of this title. Any conviction shall be punished as provided in Section 500 of this title. In addition to a criminal conviction, the person shall be denied the right to have a concealed handgun license pursuant to the provisions of Section 1290.10 of this title and the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation shall revoke the handgun license, if issued;

6. Two passport size photographs of the applicant shall be submitted with the completed application. The cost of the photographs shall be the responsibility of the applicant. The sheriff is authorized to take the applicant's photograph for purposes of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act and, if such photographs are taken by the sheriff the cost of the photographs shall not exceed Ten Dollars (\$10.00) for the two photos. All money received by the sheriff from photographing applicants pursuant to the provisions of this paragraph shall be retained by the sheriff and deposited into the Sheriff's Service Fee Account;

7. The sheriff shall witness the signature of the applicant and review or take the photographs of the applicant and shall verify that the person making application for a handgun license is the same person in the photographs submitted and the same person who signed the application form. Proof of a valid Oklahoma driver license with a photograph of the applicant or an Oklahoma State photo identification for the applicant shall be required to be presented by the applicant to the sheriff for verification of the person's identity;

8. Upon verification of the identity of the applicant, the sheriff shall take two complete sets of fingerprints of the applicant. Both sets of fingerprints shall be submitted by the sheriff with the completed application, certificate of training or an exemption certificate, photographs and processing fee to the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation within fourteen (14) days of

taking the fingerprints. The cost of the fingerprints shall be paid by the applicant and shall not exceed Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) for the two sets. All fees collected by the sheriff from taking fingerprints pursuant to the provisions of this paragraph shall be retained by the sheriff and deposited into the Sheriff's Service Fee Account;

9. The sheriff shall submit to the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation within the fourteen-day period, together with the completed application, certificate of training or exemption certificate, photographs, processing fee and fingerprints, a report of information deemed pertinent to an investigation of the applicant for a handgun license. The sheriff shall make a preliminary investigation of pertinent information about the applicant and the court clerk shall assist the sheriff in locating pertinent information in court records for this purpose. If no pertinent information is found to exist either for or against the applicant, the sheriff shall so indicate in the report;

10. The Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation, upon receipt of the application and required information from the sheriff, shall forward one full set of fingerprints of the applicant to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a national criminal history records search. The cost of processing the fingerprints nationally shall be paid from the processing fee collected by the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation;

11. The Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation shall make a reasonable effort to investigate the information submitted by the applicant and the sheriff, to ascertain whether or not the issuance of a handgun license would be in violation of the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act. The Bureau's investigation of an applicant shall include, but shall not be limited to: a statewide criminal history records search, a national criminal history records search, a Federal Bureau of Investigation fingerprint search, and if

applicable, an investigation of medical records or other records or information deemed by the Bureau to be relevant to the application.

- a. In the course of the Bureau's investigation, it shall present the name of the applicant along with any known aliases, the address of the applicant and the social security number of the applicant to the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. The Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services shall respond within ten (10) days of receiving such information to the Bureau as follows:
  - (1) with a "Yes" answer, if the Department's records indicate that the person was involuntarily committed to a mental institution in Oklahoma, or
  - (2) with a "No" answer, if there are no records indicating the name of the person as a person involuntarily committed to a mental institution in Oklahoma, or
  - (3) with an "Inconclusive" answer if the Department's records suggest the applicant may be a formerly committed person. In the case of an inconclusive answer, the Bureau shall ask the applicant whether he or she was involuntarily committed. If the applicant states under penalty of perjury that he or she has not been involuntarily committed, the Bureau shall continue processing the application for a license.
- b. In the course of the Bureau's investigation, it shall check the name of any applicant who is twenty-eight (28) years of age or younger along with any known aliases, the address of the applicant and the social security number of the applicant against the records in the Juvenile Online Tracking System (JOLTS) of the

Office of Juvenile Affairs. The Office of Juvenile Affairs shall provide the Bureau direct access to check the applicant against the records available on the JOLTS System.

- (1) If the Bureau finds a record on the JOLTS System that indicates the person was adjudicated a delinquent for an offense that would constitute a felony offense if committed by an adult within the last ten (10) years the Bureau shall deny the license.
- (2) If the Bureau finds no record on the JOLTS System indicating the named person was adjudicated delinquent for an offense that would constitute a felony offense if committed by an adult within the last ten (10) years, or
- (3) If the records suggest the applicant may have been adjudicated delinquent for an offense that would constitute a felony offense if committed by an adult but such record is inconclusive, the Bureau shall ask the applicant whether he or she was adjudicated a delinquent for an offense that would constitute a felony offense if committed by an adult within the last ten (10) years. If the applicant states under penalty of perjury that he or she was not adjudicated a delinquent within ten (10) years, the Bureau shall continue processing the application for a license;

12. The Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation shall either issue a concealed handgun license or deny the application within ninety (90) days of the date of receipt of the required information from the sheriff. The Bureau shall approve an applicant who appears to be in full compliance with the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-

Defense Act, if completion of the federal fingerprint search is the only reason for delay of the issuance of the handgun license to that applicant. Upon receipt of the federal fingerprint search information, if the Bureau receives information which precludes the person from having a concealed handgun license, the Bureau shall revoke the concealed handgun license previously issued to the applicant. The Bureau shall deny a license when the applicant fails to properly complete the application form or application process or is determined not to be eligible as specified by the provisions of Section 1290.9, 1290.10 or 1290.11 of this title. The Bureau shall approve an application in all other cases. If an application is denied, the Bureau shall notify the applicant in writing of its decision. The notification shall state the grounds for the denial and inform the applicant of the right to an appeal as may be provided by the provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act. Any administrative hearing on a denial which may be provided shall be conducted by a hearing examiner appointed by the Bureau. The hearing examiner's decision shall be a final decision appealable to a district court in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act. When an application is approved, the Bureau shall issue the license and mail it to the sheriff of the county wherein the applicant resides. The applicant may pick up the concealed handgun license from the sheriff's office.

B. Nothing contained in any provision of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act shall be construed to require or authorize the registration, documentation or providing of serial numbers with regard to any firearm. For purposes of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act, the sheriff may designate a person to receive, fingerprint, photograph or otherwise process applications for concealed handgun licenses.

SECTION 4. AMENDATORY Section 25, Chapter 272, O.S.L. 1995 (21 O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 1290.25), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1290.25

LEGISLATIVE INTENT

The Legislature finds as a matter of public policy and fact that it is necessary to provide statewide uniform standards for issuing licenses to carry concealed handguns for lawful self-defense and self-protection, and further finds it necessary to occupy the field of regulation of the bearing of concealed handguns to ensure that no honest, law-abiding citizen who qualifies pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act, ~~Sections 1 through 25~~ Section 1290.1 et seq. of this ~~act~~ title, is subjectively or arbitrarily denied their rights. The Legislature does not delegate to the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation any authority to regulate or restrict the issuing of licenses except as provided by the provisions of this act. Subjective or arbitrary actions or rules which encumber the issuing process by placing burdens on the applicant beyond those requirements detailed in the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act or which create restrictions beyond those specified in this act are deemed to be in conflict with the intent of this act and are hereby prohibited. The Oklahoma Self-Defense Act shall be liberally construed to carry out the constitutional right to bear arms for self-defense and self-protection. The provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act are cumulative to existing rights to bear arms and nothing in ~~Sections 1 through 25~~ Section 1290.1 et seq. of this ~~act~~ title shall impair or diminish those rights.

However, the conditions that mandate the administrative actions of license denial, suspension, revocation or an administrative fine are intended to protect the health, safety and public welfare of the citizens of this state. The restricting conditions specified in the

Self Defense Act generally involve the criminal history, mental state, alcohol or substance abuse of the applicant or licensee, a hazard of domestic violence, a danger to police officers, or the ability of the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation to properly administer the Act. The restricting conditions that establish a risk of injury or harm to the public are tailored to reduce the risks to the benefit of the citizens of this state.

SECTION 5. This act shall become effective July 1, 2000.

SECTION 6. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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