

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 47th Legislature (2000)

3 SENATE BILL 1143

By: Littlefield

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to shooting galleries; defining  
8 terms; requiring adoption of safety standards for  
9 shooting ranges; directing the Department of Wildlife  
10 Conservation to promulgate rules and adopt safety  
11 standards within certain time; requiring periodic  
12 review of adopted standards; requiring inspections  
and permits; providing for inspection of existing  
shooting ranges within certain time; providing  
certain time to comply with standards; providing  
penalty for noncompliance; providing for  
codification; and declaring an emergency.

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

16 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
17 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 710 of Title 63, unless there is  
18 created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

19 As used in Section 701 et seq. of Title 63 of the Oklahoma  
20 Statutes:

21 1. "Shooting range" means any public or private establishment,  
22 whether the establishment is indoor, outdoor, or mobile, and whether  
23 it operates for profit or not-for-profit or whether a commercial or  
24 noncommercial range, that supervises or designates an area for the  
25 discharge or other use of firearms or archery equipment for  
26 silhouette, skeet, trap, black powder, target, self-defense, hunter  
27 safety, or similar recreational or competitive shooting, provided  
28 the noise decibel level when measured at any point along the  
29 property line of the range does not exceed one hundred fifty (150)  
30 decibels;

31 2. "Indoor shooting range" means a shooting range established  
32 inside a building or other structure which is fully or partially

1 enclosed in which persons may fire a weapon for a fee or other  
2 consideration;

3 3. "Outdoor shooting range" means a shooting range established  
4 outside on open property on which persons may fire a weapon for a  
5 fee or other consideration, and shall not include any lease of  
6 property for hunting purposes;

7 4. "Mobile shooting range" means a shooting range established  
8 inside a structure, trailer, or compartment which is partially or  
9 fully enclosed and which is capable of being moved by motor vehicle,  
10 motor carrier, or other conveyance from one place to another in  
11 which persons may fire a weapon for a fee or other consideration;

12 5. "Commercial range" means a shooting range operated as a  
13 business for profit;

14 6. "Noncommercial range" means a shooting range operated by any  
15 not-for-profit organization or any club, association or group which  
16 is formed for social or recreational purposes; and

17 7. "Local unit of government" means a county, city, town, or  
18 village, or any governmental entity, board, council, or committee  
19 operating pursuant to the authority of a county, city, town, or  
20 village.

21 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
22 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 711 of Title 63, unless there is  
23 created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

24 A. Every indoor, outdoor, or mobile shooting range shall be  
25 required to conform to safety standards adopted by the Department of  
26 Wildlife Conservation pursuant to the provisions of this section  
27 before beginning its operation. The Department shall inspect each  
28 shooting range established in this state, and, if the range is  
29 deemed in compliance with the safety standards adopted by the  
30 Department, the shooting range shall be issued a two-year permit to  
31 operate. Any owner or operator of a shooting range who fails to  
32 obtain an inspection and permit, or whose range fails to meet the

1 safety standards adopted by the Department of Wildlife Conservation  
2 shall be deemed guilty of operating an unlawful shooting range. Any  
3 owner or operator who continues the operation of the shooting range  
4 after failing to meet the inspection standards and without a permit  
5 as provided in this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor  
6 punishable, upon conviction, by a fine of One Hundred Dollars  
7 (\$100.00).

8 B. The Department of Wildlife Conservation is directed to  
9 promulgate rules and adopt safety standards for shooting ranges  
10 operating in this state within thirty (30) days of the effective  
11 date of this act. In determining safety standards, the Department  
12 may adopt those standards and practices recommended by a nationally  
13 recognized nonprofit membership organization that provides voluntary  
14 firearm safety programs, including training of individuals in safe  
15 handling and use of firearms, or the Department may adopt other  
16 recognized standards. The Department shall from time to time review  
17 and revise the safety standards for shooting ranges as deemed  
18 necessary by the Department to maintain public safety and the  
19 Department shall provide necessary forms to implement the provisions  
20 of this section.

21 C. Within two (2) years from the effective date of this act,  
22 the Department shall cause to be inspected all shooting ranges  
23 operating in this state on the effective date of this act.  
24 Following the inspection, the Department shall issue a written  
25 notification to the owner or operator of any range deemed deficient  
26 in safety standards, specifically enumerating the deficiencies to be  
27 corrected and the owner or operator shall be required to correct  
28 such deficiencies within the time provided in this subsection. Any  
29 owner or operator of a commercial range shall have sixty (60) days  
30 from the date of notification to be in compliance with the safety  
31 standards. Noncommercial ranges shall have one (1) year after the  
32 date of notification to be in compliance with the safety standards.

1 Shooting ranges in existence on the effective date of this act may  
2 continue to operate until inspected, and thereafter as provided by  
3 the provisions of this section.

4 D. Any owner or operator of a shooting range may appeal any  
5 ruling of the Department of Wildlife Conservation as provided in the  
6 Administrative Procedures Act.

7 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
8 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby  
9 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
10 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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