

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 47th Legislature (1999)

SENATE BILL NO. 562

By: Shurden

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act; amending Section 5, Chapter 272, O.S.L. 1995 (21 O.S. Supp. 1998, Section 1290.5), which relates to the term of a handgun license and renewal; modifying renewal process; deleting fingerprint requirement and certain records check; amending Section 12, Chapter 272, O.S.L. 1995, as last amended by Section 4, Chapter 286, O.S.L. 1998 (21 O.S. Supp. 1998, Section 1290.12), which relates to procedure for application of handgun license; deleting language; lowering initial application fee; amending Section 14, Chapter 272, O.S.L. 1995, as last amended by Section 5, Chapter 286, O.S.L. 1998 (21 O.S. Supp. 1998, Section 1290.14), which relates to training requirements and instructors; deleting requirement for annual registration with the Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 5, Chapter 272, O.S.L. 1995 (21 O.S. Supp. 1998, Section 1290.5), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1290.5

TERM OF LICENSE AND RENEWAL

A. A concealed handgun license when issued shall authorize the person to whom the license is issued to carry a loaded or unloaded concealed handgun as authorized by the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act, ~~Sections 1 through 25 of this act,~~ and any future modifications thereto. The license shall be valid in this state for a period of four (4) years, unless subsequently suspended or revoked as provided by law. The person shall have no authority to continue to carry a concealed handgun in this state pursuant to the Oklahoma

Self-Defense Act when a license is allowed to expire or when a license has been suspended or revoked for any reason.

B. A license may be renewed in the same manner provided for issuing an original license as provided in this subsection, except the training requirements of Section 14 of this act shall not apply to a renewal. The person shall have no authority to continue to carry a concealed handgun in this state pursuant to the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act when a license is allowed to expire or when a license has been suspended or revoked for any reason.

1. To renew a handgun license, the licensee must first obtain a renewal form from the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation before the license has expired. The Bureau shall not send a renewal form to any person who does not have a valid handgun license or who has any prohibition pursuant to any provision of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act;

2. The applicant must complete the renewal form, attach two current passport size photographs of the applicant, and submit a renewal fee in the amount of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) in the form of check or money order made payable to the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation.

3. Upon receipt of the renewal application, photographs and fee, the Bureau will conduct a criminal history records name search. If the applicant appears to not have any prohibition to renewing the handgun license, the Bureau shall issue the renewed license for a period of four (4) years.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY Section 12, Chapter 272, O.S.L. 1995, as last amended by Section 4, Chapter 286, O.S.L. 1998 (21 O.S. Supp. 1998, Section 1290.12), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1290.12

PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATION

A. The procedure for applying for ~~or renewing~~ 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)~~ Ninety Dollars (\$90.00) 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 money order or a cashier's check made payable to the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation. 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;

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 3. AMENDATORY Section 14, Chapter 272, O.S.L. 1995, as last amended by Section 5, Chapter 286, O.S.L. 1998 (21 O.S. Supp. 1998, Section 1290.14), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1290.14

SAFETY AND TRAINING COURSE

A. Each applicant for a license to carry a concealed handgun pursuant to the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act, Section 1290.1 et seq. of

this title, must successfully complete a firearms safety and training course in this state conducted by a registered and approved firearms instructor as provided by the provisions of this section. The applicant must further demonstrate competence and qualification with an authorized pistol of the type or types that the applicant desires to carry as a concealed handgun pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act, except certain persons may be exempt from such training requirement as provided by the provisions of Section 1290.15 of this title.

B. The Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training (CLEET) shall establish criteria for approving firearms instructors for purposes of training and qualifying individuals for a concealed handgun license pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act. All firearms instructors shall be required to meet the eligibility requirements for a concealed handgun license as provided in Sections 1290.9, 1290.10, and 1290.11 of this title, and each instructor shall have their application processed as provided for applicants in Section 1290.12 of this title, including the state and national criminal history records search and fingerprint search. A firearms instructor shall be required to pay a fee of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) to the Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training (CLEET) each time the person makes application for CLEET approval as a firearms instructor pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act. The fee shall be retained by CLEET and shall be deposited into the Firearms Instructors Revolving Fund. CLEET shall promulgate the rules, forms and procedures necessary to implement the approval of firearms instructors as authorized by the provisions of this subsection. CLEET shall periodically review each approved instructor during a training and qualification course to assure compliance with the rules and course contents. Any violation of the rules may result in the revocation or suspension of CLEET and Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation approval. Unless the

approval has been revoked or suspended, a firearm instructor's CLEET approval shall be for a term of ~~one (1) year~~ four (4) years.

C. All firearms instructors approved by CLEET to train and qualify individuals for a concealed handgun license shall be required to apply for registration with the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation within thirty (30) days after receiving CLEET approval. All firearms instructors teaching the approved course for a concealed handgun license must display their registration certificate during each training and qualification course. Each approved firearms instructor shall complete a registration form provided by the Bureau and shall pay a registration fee of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) to the Bureau at the time of each application for registration. Registration certificates issued by the Bureau shall be valid for four (4) years from the date of issuance. The Bureau shall issue a four-year handgun license to an approved firearms instructor at the time of issuance of a registration certificate and no additional fee shall be required or charged. The Bureau shall maintain a current listing of all registered firearms instructors in this state. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to eliminate the requirement for registration and training with CLEET as provided in subsection B of this section. Failure to register or be trained as required shall result in a revocation or suspension of the instructor certificate by the Bureau.

D. The Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation shall approve registration for a firearms instructor applicant who is in full compliance with CLEET rules regarding firearms instructors and the provisions of subsection B of this section, if completion of the federal fingerprint search is the only reason for delay of registration of that firearms instructor 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 both the registration and the concealed handgun license previously issued to the firearms instructor. ~~Beginning May 16, 1996, any~~ Any firearms instructor who previously has been issued a one-year concealed handgun license shall not be eligible for the four-year license until the expiration of the license previously issued.

E. The required firearms safety and training course and the actual demonstration of competency and qualification required of the applicant shall be designed and conducted in such a manner that the course can be reasonably completed by the applicant within an eight-hour period. CLEET shall establish the course content and promulgate rules, procedures and forms necessary to implement the provisions of this subsection. For the training and qualification course, an applicant may be charged a fee not to exceed Sixty Dollars (\$60.00). The instructor to student ratio shall not exceed ten students to any one instructor. CLEET may establish criteria for assistant instructors, maximum class size and any other requirements deemed necessary to conduct a safe and effective training and qualification course. The course content shall include a safety inspection of the firearm to be used by the applicant in the training course; instruction on pistol handling, safety and storage; dynamics of ammunition and firing; methods or positions for firing a pistol; information about the criminal provisions of the Oklahoma law relating to firearms; the requirements of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act as it relates to the applicant; self-defense and the use of appropriate force; a practice shooting session; and a familiarization course. The firearms instructor shall refuse to train or qualify any person when the pistol to be used or carried by the person is either deemed unsafe or unfit for firing or is a weapon not authorized by the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act. The course shall provide an opportunity for the applicant to qualify himself or herself on either a derringer, a revolver, a semiautomatic pistol or

any combination of a derringer, a revolver and a semiautomatic pistol, provided no pistol shall be capable of firing larger than .45 caliber ammunition. Any applicant who successfully trains and qualifies himself or herself with a semiautomatic pistol may be approved by the firearms instructor on the training certificate for a semiautomatic pistol, a revolver and a derringer upon request of the applicant. Any person who qualifies on a derringer or revolver shall not be eligible for a semiautomatic rating until the person has demonstrated competence and qualifications on a semiautomatic pistol. Upon successful completion of the training and qualification course, a certificate shall be issued to each applicant who successfully completes the course. The certificate of training shall comply with the form established by CLEET and shall be submitted with an application for a concealed handgun license pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 2 of Section 1290.12 of this title.

F. There is hereby created a revolving fund for the Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training (CLEET), to be designated the "Firearms Instructors Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall consist of all funds received for approval of firearms instructors for purposes of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act. All funds received shall be deposited to the fund. All monies accruing to the credit of said fund are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by the Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training, for implementation of the training and qualification course contents, approval of firearms instructors and any other CLEET requirement pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act or as may otherwise be deemed appropriate by CLEET. Expenditures from said fund shall be made upon warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by law with the Director of State Finance for approval and payment.

SECTION 4. This act shall become effective November 1, 1999.

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