STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 53rd Legislature (2012)

HOUSE BILL 2383 By: Cockroft

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to crimes and punishments; amending 21 O.S. 2011, Sections 1290.14 and 1290.24, which relate to the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act; allowing firearm training and qualification course providers to determine course fee; providing immunity from civil liability; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 21 O.S. 2011, 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 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. Prior to submitting an application for CLEET approval as a firearms instructor, applicants shall attend a firearms instructor school, meeting the following minimum requirements:

1. Firearms instructor training conducted by one of the following entities:

a. Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training,

b. National Rifle Association,

c. Oklahoma Rifle Association,

d. federal law enforcement agencies, or

e. other professionally recognized organizations;

2. The course shall be at least sixteen (16) hours in length;

3. Upon completion of the course, the applicant shall be qualified to provide instruction on revolvers, semiautomatic pistols, or both; and

4. Receive a course completion certificate.

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 the application shall be 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 firearms instructor's CLEET approval shall be for a term of five (5) years. Beginning on the effective date of this act, any firearms instructor who has been issued a four-year CLEET approval shall not be eligible for the five-year approval until the expiration of the approval previously issued. CLEET shall be responsible for notifying all approved

firearms instructors of statutory and policy changes related to the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act.

C. 1. 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 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, except as provided in paragraph 2 of this subsection. Registration certificates issued by the Bureau shall be valid for five (5) years from the date of issuance. The Bureau shall issue a five-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 paragraph 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.

2. On the effective date of this act, the registered instructors listed in subparagraphs a and b of this paragraph shall not be required to renew the firearms instructor registration certificate with the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation at the expiration of the registration term, provided the instructor is not subject to any suspension or revocation of the firearm instructor certificate. The firearms instructor registration with the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation shall automatically renew together with the handgun license authorized in paragraph 1 of this subsection for an additional five-year term and no additional cost or fee may be charged for the following individuals:

a. an active duty law enforcement officer of this state or any of its political subdivisions or of the federal government who has a valid CLEET approval as a firearms instructor pursuant to the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act, and

b. a retired law enforcement officer authorized to carry a firearm pursuant to Section 1289.8 of this title who has a valid CLEET approval as a firearms instructor pursuant to the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act.

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.

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)~~ <u>which shall be determined by the entity that is conducting the course</u>. 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 2. AMENDATORY 21 O.S. 2011, Section 1290.24, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1290.24

IMMUNITY

A. The state, its officers, agents and employees shall be immune from liability resulting or arising from:

1. Failure to prevent the licensing of an individual for whom the receipt of the license is unlawful pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act or any other provision of law of this state;

2. Any action or misconduct with a pistol committed by a person to whom a license to carry a concealed handgun has been issued or by any person who obtains a pistol from a licensee;

3. Any injury to any person during a handgun training course conducted by a firearms instructor certified by the Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training to conduct training under the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act, or injury from any misfire or malfunction of any handgun on a training course firing range supervised by a certified firearms instructor under the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act, or any injury resulting from carrying a concealed handgun pursuant to a concealed handgun license; and

4. Any action or finding pursuant to a hearing conducted in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act as required in the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act.

B. Firearms instructors certified by the Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training to conduct training for the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act shall be immune from liability to third persons resulting or arising from any claim based on an act or omission of a trainee.

C. No property owner, tenant, employer or employee, of a private gun range shall be liable in any civil action for any injury to a person engaged in firearms activities on the premises of said gun range, unless the person, property owner, tenant, employer or employee of the gun range commits a criminal act involving the discharge of a firearm or weapon. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to claims pursuant to the Workers' Compensation Code.

D. An individual private property owner, resident or tenant that allows a person to hunt, fish or conduct such other firearms activity on said property, if such activity is allowed for by law, shall be immune from liability for injuries resulting or arising from any claim based on an act or omission of the private property owner, resident or tenant.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2012.

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