



H.B. 450

127th General Assembly
(As Reported by H. Criminal Justice)

Reps. Goodwin, Wachtmann, Barrett, Peterson, J. McGregor, Brinkman, Fessler, Gibbs, Combs, Evans, Huffman, Adams, Stebelton, Letson, Core, Carmichael, Uecker, Blessing, Dyer, S. Williams

BILL SUMMARY

- Permits a member of the armed services of the United States or the Ohio National Guard who is between the ages of 18 and 21 to purchase a handgun if the person has received firearms training.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Underage purchase of a handgun

Current law with one exception prohibits a person under age 21 from purchasing or attempting to purchase a "handgun" (see **COMMENT** for definition). However, current law permits a person age 18 or older and under age 21 to purchase or attempt to purchase a handgun if the person is a law enforcement officer who is properly appointed or employed as a law enforcement officer and has received firearms training approved by the Ohio Peace Officer Training Council or equivalent firearms training. Whoever violates this prohibition is guilty of "underage purchase of a handgun," a misdemeanor of the second degree.

Under the bill, a person who is age 18 or older and under age 21 is also permitted to purchase or attempt to purchase a handgun if the person is an active or reserve member of the armed services of the United States or the Ohio National Guard who has received firearms training from the armed services or the National Guard or equivalent firearms training. The bill does not change the penalty for the offense. (R.C. 2923.211(B).)

Current law also prohibits a person under age 18 from purchasing or attempting to purchase a "firearm" (see **COMMENT** for definition). The bill does not affect this prohibition. (R.C. 2923.211(A).)

COMMENT

"Firearm" means any deadly weapon capable of expelling or propelling one or more projectiles by the action of an explosive or combustible propellant. "Firearm" includes an unloaded firearm, and any firearm that is inoperable but that can readily be rendered operable. (R.C. 2923.11(B)(1).)

"Handgun" means any of the following: (1) any firearm that has a short stock and is designed to be held and fired by the use of a single hand, (2) any combination of parts from which a firearm of a type described in (1) can be assembled (R.C. 2923.11(C)).

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	01-24-08
Reported, H. Criminal Justice	04-29-08

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