



WHAT FEDERALLY MANDATED CONCEALED CARRY RECIPROCITY WOULD MEAN FOR **FLORIDA**

Lawmakers on Capitol Hill are debating a bill that would force each state to recognize the concealed carry laws of every other state.

Currently, states have the right to choose which states' concealed carry permits they recognize, which is important because the requirements to carry hidden, loaded guns in public vary drastically from state to state. If the federally mandated concealed carry bill passes, that will no longer be the case, and **Florida will be forced to allow unlicensed, unvetted people from out of state to carry concealed guns in public places.**

Florida currently recognizes concealed carry licenses issued by other states, but only when the license holder is a resident of the state that issued the license. This crucial public safety protection prevents people who don't qualify for licenses from their own states from carrying concealed firearms in Florida.

The problem is that ten states, including Florida's neighbor Georgia, issue licenses to non-residents even if they don't qualify for licenses from their own states. Consequently, people often take advantage of this loophole by seeking licenses from these states rather than their home states. If the federally mandated concealed carry bill passes, **Florida would be federally mandated to honor the weak or nonexistent concealed carry standards of other states.** This will make Florida less safe and put law enforcement at risk.

REQUIREMENTS TO CARRY CONCEALED IN...		
	FLORIDA	GEORGIA
Must complete safety training?	<p>An applicant for a Florida concealed firearms license must demonstrate competence with a firearm through completion of a course or participation in organized shooting or military service.</p>	<p>An applicant does NOT need to undergo firearm safety training or demonstrate competence with a firearm in any way to get a concealed carry weapon license.</p>
Must NOT have a history of substance abuse?	<p>An applicant is ineligible for a license if within the last three years, he or she was convicted of using a firearm while under the influence of alcohol, was deemed a habitual offender for disorderly intoxication, or had two or more convictions for driving under the influence.</p>	<p>An applicant may have any number of misdemeanor convictions related to alcohol abuse, such as drunk driving or disorderly intoxication, and still be issued a license.</p>
Must NOT have a recent criminal record?	<p>A license will be denied if the applicant has been found guilty of any misdemeanor crime of violence, unless three years have elapsed.</p>	<p>A license may be issued to applicants recently convicted of violent misdemeanors, except domestic violence.</p>
Will be held accountable?	<p>The Florida Crime Information Center state maintains an automated listing of license holders and related pertinent information, available online upon request at all times to law enforcement agencies only.</p>	<p>Georgia law specifically prohibits the creation of a statewide database of license holders, so an agency seeking to verify a license must contact the local probate court that issued it.</p>