



WHAT FEDERALLY MANDATED CONCEALED CARRY RECIPROCITY WOULD MEAN FOR **NEW JERSEY**

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 concealed carry reciprocity bill passes, that will no longer be the case, and **New Jersey will be forced to allow unlicensed, unvetted people from out of state to carry guns in public places**.

As of today, 12 states—including nearby West Virginia—**do not require** any permit or training to carry hidden, loaded guns in public. If this bill becomes federal law, almost any person from these states would be **automatically authorized** to carry concealed in New Jersey, regardless of whether that person meets New Jersey's standards for what it takes to carry a concealed gun in public.

Current New Jersey law does not allow those with concealed carry permits issued by other states to carry in New Jersey. If the concealed carry reciprocity bill passes, New Jersey would be federally mandated to honor the weak or nonexistent concealed carry standards of other states, **making New Jersey less safe and putting law enforcement at risk**.

REQUIREMENTS TO CARRY CONCEALED IN...		
	NEW JERSEY	WEST VIRGINIA
Must have a permit?	<p>Any person seeking to carry a handgun must pass a background check and apply for a permit under oath through the New Jersey State Police or local law enforcement. A superior court must also approve the application.</p>	<p>A person age 21 or older does NOT need a permit and does not need to go through a background check or any vetting process to carry a concealed handgun.</p>
Must have training?	<p>A person must demonstrate a “thorough familiarity” with the safe handling and use of handguns.</p>	<p>A person may carry a concealed handgun without having ever received firearms training or having had any experience with firearms.</p>
Must have good character?	<p>A person must provide three references to certify that they are “of good moral character and behavior,” a designation that is required for the superior court to issue a permit.</p>	<p>Law enforcement has NO authority to prevent a violent person from carrying concealed, absent convictions for felonies or domestic violence or protective orders.</p>
Must complete safety training?	<p>Each application must include a written certification of the applicant’s justifiable need to carry a handgun.</p>	<p>A person may carry a concealed handgun regardless of whether or not they have a need to do so.</p>