



WHAT FEDERALLY MANDATED CONCEALED CARRY RECIPROCITY WOULD MEAN FOR TEXAS

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 **Texas will be forced to allow unlicensed, unvetted people from out of state carry concealed guns in public places.**

As of today, 12 states **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 Texas, regardless of whether that person meets Texas's standards for what it takes to carry a concealed gun in public, such as having passed a background check.

Concealed carry reciprocity would significantly undermine Texas's laws. Like many states, Texas has been very deliberate about which other states' concealed handgun licenses it recognizes.

Texas will only recognize concealed handgun licenses or permits issued by another state if the Texas Attorney General has found that the state or local authorities that issue the licenses or permits conduct a background check prior doing so. On this basis, Texas currently **does not** recognize concealed carry permits from six states, including Wisconsin.

	REQUIREMENTS TO CARRY CONCEALED IN...	
	TEXAS	WISCONSIN
Must pass a background check?	<p>✓</p> <p>The Texas Department of Public Safety must check its computerized records, and a regional designee conducts an additional check using local records and "any records necessary." The scope of the investigation is at the sole discretion of the Department, which has 60 days to complete it.</p>	<p>✗</p> <p>The Wisconsin Department of Justice is required to conduct a background check before issuing a CCW permit. However, as long as the person is not currently charged with a crime, has never been convicted of a felony or domestic violence misdemeanor, and is not subject to a restraining order, a CCW permit must be issued within 21 days even without a final review.</p>
Must demonstrate the ability to safely handle a firearm?	<p>✓</p> <p>A person must complete a two-part handgun proficiency course that includes instruction about laws relating to firearm-use and range instruction with an actual demonstration of the applicant's ability to safely and proficiently use a gun.</p>	<p>✗</p> <p>The Wisconsin Department of Justice is specifically prohibited from requiring training.</p>
Must NOT have a criminal record?	<p>✓</p> <p>A person is ineligible for a license if he or she has been convicted of violent misdemeanor within the past five years.</p>	<p>✗</p> <p>The Wisconsin Department of Justice is required to issue a permit without regard for misdemeanor convictions, other than those for domestic violence.</p>
Must NOT have a history of drug or alcohol convictions?	<p>✓</p> <p>An applicant cannot have been convicted two or more times of a drug or alcohol related offense within the preceding 10 years or other evidence indicates the person is chemically dependent.</p>	<p>✗</p> <p>A person who has been convicted of drug and alcohol related misdemeanors is eligible for a license unless he or she has been committed to a treatment facility as drug or alcohol dependent.</p>