

An Act relating to the right to keep and bear arms under Article I, Section 1A of the Constitution of the State of Iowa, providing for permitless carry, limiting employer restrictions, and encouraging school staff to carry firearms for protection, and providing that this Act may be cited as the “Iowa Public Freedom and Safety Act.”

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

Section 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENT.

1. The general assembly affirms Article I, Section 1A of the Constitution of Iowa, which provides: “The right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed. The sovereign state of Iowa affirms and recognizes this right to be a fundamental individual right. Any and all restrictions of this right shall be subject to strict scrutiny.”
2. It is the intent of this Act to ensure that law-abiding citizens may exercise their fundamental right to keep and bear arms without undue burden, while promoting safety and security in public and private settings, including workplaces and schools.

Sec. 2. CONSTITUTIONAL CARRY — PERMITLESS OPEN OR CONCEALED CARRY.

1. The following sections of Chapter 724, Code 2025, of Iowa, shall be struck: a. Section 724.2A b. Sections 724.5 through 724.7 c. Sections 724.9 through 724.14 d. All references within the Code to the above sections shall also be stricken, and any conforming amendments throughout the Code.
2. Section 724.2 is amended to read as follows: a. Any person who is not otherwise prohibited by state or federal law from possessing a firearm may carry such a firearm, openly or concealed, without the need for a permit. b. The department of public safety shall issue permits under this chapter solely upon request for reciprocity or other lawful purposes.
3. Section 724.8 is amended to read as follows: 724.8 Persons ineligible to carry firearms. A person shall not carry a firearm if the person is prohibited by state or federal law, including but not limited to 18 U.S.C. § 922(g), from shipping, transporting, possessing, or receiving a firearm.
4. A new section 724.11A is enacted to read as follows: 724.11A Reciprocity for out-of-state permits. A valid permit to carry firearms issued by any other state or the District of Columbia to a nonresident of Iowa shall be recognized as valid in this state for the purpose of carrying a firearm, provided the issuing jurisdiction recognizes or honors Iowa permits or permitless carry in a similar manner.

Sec. 3. EMPLOYER VEHICLE POLICIES. Section 724.8C is added to read as follows: 724.8C Employer restrictions on firearms in vehicles.

1. No employer in this state shall prohibit or otherwise restrict an employee from lawfully possessing a firearm in the employee's personal vehicle when parked on property owned or controlled by the employer.
2. This section shall not be construed to authorize an employee to carry a firearm on the employer's premises other than in the vehicle.

Sec. 4. SCHOOL SAFETY AND STAFF PROTECTION. Section 724.4B is amended to read as follows: 724.4B Carrying firearms on school grounds — penalty — exceptions.

1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, teachers, administrators, and school staff who are not otherwise prohibited from possessing firearms may carry concealed firearms within school buildings for the protection of themselves and others. School districts are encouraged to support such carry through policies and training.
2. The department of education and local school districts, in consultation with the department of public safety and Iowa Firearms Coalition, shall develop voluntary, no-cost or low-cost training programs to support safe and responsible carry by school employees.
3. Nothing in this section shall be construed to mandate participation by any employee, nor to limit the authority of school districts to provide additional safety measures.
4. Insurers are prohibited from denying, canceling, or increasing premiums for liability insurance to any school on the basis of the possibility that school employees may be armed.

Sec. 5. SEVERABILITY. If any provision of this Act or application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions which can be given effect without the invalid provision.

Sec. 6. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect July 1 following enactment.