

By: Campbell

S.B. No. 864

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a handgun proficiency course that is taken to obtain or renew a concealed handgun license.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 411.185(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) To renew a license, a license holder must:

(1) complete a ~~[continuing education course in]~~ handgun proficiency course under Section 411.188(a) ~~[411.188(c)]~~ within the six-month period preceding:

(A) the date of application for renewal, for a first or second renewal; and

(B) the date of application for renewal or the date of application for the preceding renewal, for a third or subsequent renewal, to ensure that the license holder is not required to complete the course more than once in any 10-year period; and

(2) submit to the department:

(A) an application for renewal on a form provided by the department;

(B) evidence of handgun proficiency, in the form and manner required by the department;

(C) payment of a nonrefundable renewal fee as set by the department; and

1 (D) one or more photographs of the applicant that
2 meet the requirements of the department.

3 SECTION 2. Sections 411.188(a), (b), and (j), Government
4 Code, are amended to read as follows:

5 (a) The director by rule shall establish minimum standards
6 for handgun proficiency and shall develop a course to teach handgun
7 proficiency and examinations to measure handgun proficiency. The
8 course to teach handgun proficiency is required for each person who
9 seeks to obtain or renew a license and must contain training
10 sessions divided into two parts. One part of the course must be
11 classroom instruction and the other part must be range instruction
12 and an actual demonstration by the applicant of the applicant's
13 ability to safely and proficiently use the applicable category of
14 handgun. An applicant must be able to demonstrate, at a minimum,
15 the degree of proficiency that is required to effectively operate a
16 handgun of .32 caliber or above. The department shall distribute
17 the standards, course requirements, and examinations on request to
18 any qualified handgun instructor.

19 (b) Only ~~[a]~~ qualified handgun instructors ~~[instructor]~~ may
20 administer the classroom instruction part or the range instruction
21 part of the ~~[a]~~ handgun proficiency course. The classroom
22 instruction part of the ~~[handgun proficiency]~~ course must include
23 not less than four ~~[at least 10]~~ hours and not more than six ~~[15]~~
24 hours of instruction on:

25 (1) the laws that relate to weapons and to the use of
26 deadly force;

27 (2) handgun use ~~[, proficiency,]~~ and safety;

1 (3) nonviolent dispute resolution; and

2 (4) proper storage practices for handguns with an
3 emphasis on storage practices that eliminate the possibility of
4 accidental injury to a child.

5 (j) For license holders seeking to renew their licenses, the
6 ~~[The]~~ department may offer online, or allow a qualified handgun
7 instructor to offer online, the classroom instruction part of the
8 handgun proficiency ~~[continuing education instruction]~~ course and
9 the written section of the proficiency examination ~~[required to~~
10 ~~renew a license]~~.

11 SECTION 3. Section 411.188(c), Government Code, is
12 repealed.

13 SECTION 4. The change in law made by this Act applies only
14 to an application to obtain or renew a license to carry a concealed
15 handgun submitted on or after the effective date of this Act. An
16 application submitted before the effective date of this Act is
17 governed by the law in effect when the application was submitted,
18 and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

19 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.