

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2480

To amend title 18, United States Code, to exempt qualified current and former law enforcement officers from State laws prohibiting the carrying of concealed handguns.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 8, 2002

Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. HATCH, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. CLELAND, Mr. MCCONNELL, and Mr. SESSIONS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to exempt qualified current and former law enforcement officers from State laws prohibiting the carrying of concealed handguns.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Law Enforcement Offi-
5 cers Safety Act of 2002”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXEMPTION OF QUALIFIED LAW ENFORCEMENT OF-**
 2 **FICERS FROM STATE LAWS PROHIBITING**
 3 **THE CARRYING OF CONCEALED FIREARMS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 44 of title 18, United
 5 States Code, is amended by inserting after section 926A
 6 the following:

7 **“§ 926B. Carrying of concealed firearms by qualified**
 8 **law enforcement officers**

9 “(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of the law
 10 of any State or any political subdivision thereof, an indi-
 11 vidual who is a qualified law enforcement officer and who
 12 is carrying the identification required by subsection (d)
 13 may carry a concealed firearm that has been shipped or
 14 transported in interstate or foreign commerce, subject to
 15 subsection (b).

16 “(b) This section shall not be construed to supersede
 17 or limit the laws of any State that—

18 “(1) permit private persons or entities to pro-
 19 hibit or restrict the possession of concealed firearms
 20 on their property; or

21 “(2) prohibit or restrict the possession of fire-
 22 arms on any State or local government property, in-
 23 stallation, building, base, or park.

24 “(c) As used in this section, the term ‘qualified law
 25 enforcement officer’ means an employee of a governmental
 26 agency who—

1 “(1) is authorized by law to engage in or super-
2 vise the prevention, detection, investigation, or pros-
3 ecution of, or the incarceration of any person for,
4 any violation of law, and has statutory powers of ar-
5 rest;

6 “(2) is authorized by the agency to carry a fire-
7 arm;

8 “(3) is not the subject of any disciplinary action
9 by the agency; and

10 “(4) meets standards, if any, established by the
11 agency which require the employee to regularly qual-
12 ify in the use of a firearm.

13 “(d) The identification required by this subsection is
14 the photographic identification issued by the governmental
15 agency for which the individual is, or was, employed as
16 a law enforcement officer.”.

17 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
18 for such chapter is amended by inserting after the item
19 relating to section 926A the following:

 “926B. Carrying of concealed firearms by qualified law enforcement officers.”.

1 **SEC. 3. EXEMPTION OF QUALIFIED RETIRED LAW EN-**
 2 **FORCEMENT OFFICERS FROM STATE LAWS**
 3 **PROHIBITING THE CARRYING OF CON-**
 4 **CEALED FIREARMS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 44 of title 18, United
 6 States Code, is further amended by inserting after section
 7 926B the following:

8 **“§ 926C. Carrying of concealed firearms by qualified**
 9 **retired law enforcement officers**

10 “(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of the law
 11 of any State or any political subdivision thereof, an indi-
 12 vidual who is a qualified retired law enforcement officer
 13 and who is carrying the identification required by sub-
 14 section (d) may carry a concealed firearm that has been
 15 shipped or transported in interstate or foreign commerce,
 16 subject to subsection (b).

17 “(b) This section shall not be construed to supersede
 18 or limit the laws of any State that—

19 “(1) permit private persons or entities to pro-
 20 hibit or restrict the possession of concealed firearms
 21 on their property; or

22 “(2) prohibit or restrict the possession of fire-
 23 arms on any State or local government property, in-
 24 stallation, building, base, or park.

25 “(c) As used in this section, the term ‘qualified re-
 26 tired law enforcement officer’ means an individual who—

1 “(1) retired in good standing from service with
2 a public agency as a law enforcement officer, other
3 than for reasons of mental instability;

4 “(2) before such retirement, was authorized by
5 law to engage in or supervise the prevention, detec-
6 tion, investigation, or prosecution of, or the incarceration
7 of any person for, any violation of law, and
8 had statutory powers of arrest;

9 “(3)(A) before such retirement, was regularly
10 employed as a law enforcement officer for an aggregate
11 of 5 years or more; or

12 “(B) retired from service with such agency,
13 after completing any applicable probationary period
14 of such service, due to a service-connected disability,
15 as determined by such agency;

16 “(4) has a nonforfeitable right to benefits under
17 the retirement plan of the agency;

18 “(5) during the most recent 12-month period,
19 has met, at the expense of the individual, the State’s
20 standards for training or qualification to carry fire-
21 arms; and

22 “(6) is not prohibited by Federal law from re-
23 ceiving a firearm.

24 “(d) The identification required by this subsection is
25 photographic identification issued by the agency for which

1 the individual was employed as a law enforcement offi-
2 cer.”.

3 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
4 for such chapter is further amended by inserting after the
5 item relating to section 926B the following:

“926C. Carrying of concealed firearms by qualified retired law enforcement offi-
cers.”.

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