

LFC Requester:

SCOTT SANCHEZ

AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS - 2025 REGULAR SESSION

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

{Indicate if analysis is on an original bill, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}

Date Prepared: 02/22/2025

Check all that apply:

Bill Number: SB 507

Original Correction
Amendment Substitute

Sponsor: SEN. JOSEPH CERVANTES

Agency Name and Code Number: 305 – New Mexico Department of Justice

Short Title: FIREARM LICENSES & TRANSFERS

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SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26		
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis () indicate expenditure decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26	FY27		
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis () indicate revenue decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY25	FY26	FY27	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to: HB 83
 Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

This analysis is neither a formal Opinion nor an Advisory Letter issued by the New Mexico Department of Justice. This is a staff analysis in response to a committee or legislator’s request. The analysis does not represent any official policy or legal position of the NM Department of Justice.

BILL SUMMARY

Original Bill Synopsis:

SB 507 would amend the Concealed Handgun Carry Act (NMSA 29-19-1 *et seq.*) (“the Act”).

Section 1 eliminates the definitions of “caliber” and “category” from NMSA 29-19-2. This is done in conformity with subsequent provisions changing the requirements for firearms training courses.

Section 2 amends NMSA 29-19-4 [Applicant Qualifications] to (1) allow lawful permanent residents to apply for a concealed carry license; and (2) lower the eligibility age from 21 years old to 19 years old. This Section also removes “category” and “caliber” from the content of firearms training approved by the Department of Public Safety (DPS).

Section 3 amends NMSA 29-19-6. The title of the Section is renamed “License – Issuance—Lost or Stolen License—Suspension or Revocation of License”. Provisions for license renewal are removed from this section and relocated to a new section as described in **Section 7**, below. In addition, existing provisions for refresher firearms training courses are eliminated.

Section 4 reduces the required firearms training course under NMSA 29-19-7 from fifteen hours to six hours in length.

Section 5 removes reciprocity from NMSA 29-19-12, and reciprocity is relocated to a new section as described in **Section 7**, below.

Section 6 would add a new Section to the Act called “Terms and Conditions of License.” This section would provide that A. a person may carry a concealed handgun of any category or caliber that is legal to possess; B. a licensee shall only carry one concealed handgun at any given time; C. a person shall not consume alcohol while carrying a concealed handgun; D. a person shall not carry a concealed handgun while impaired by the use of alcohol or drugs. In addition, a licensee carrying a concealed handgun in a public place must, upon demand by a peace officer, display the licensee’s license to carry a concealed handgun (CHL). A CHL holder may not deface, transfer or sell the license. A licensee may not carry a loaded concealed handgun on private property when either there is a posted prohibition on the

carrying of loaded concealed weapons, or the license is verbally told of such a prohibition by a person lawfully in possession of the property. A licensee also may not carry a loaded concealed handgun at a preschool or on the premises of any school, post-secondary institution, or an establishment licensed to dispense alcoholic beverages, except as allowed by law.

Further, a licensee must notify DPS and return the CHL if adjudicated incompetent, involuntarily committed for mental illness or addiction, subject to an order of protection, criminally charged with a felony or certain misdemeanors, or discharged from the military under other than honorable circumstances.

Section 7 would add a new section to the Act addressing license renewal and reciprocity with other jurisdictions. Refresher firearms training courses would no longer be required for license renewal. Reciprocity would be allowed for license holders from other jurisdictions with licensing requirement meeting or exceeding New Mexico requirements. Applications for transfer CHLs would be required within 90 days from the applicant's establishing residence in New Mexico.

Section 8 amends NMSA 30-7-2 [Unlawful Carrying of a Deadly Weapon] to increase the penalty for a violation from a petty misdemeanor to a misdemeanor.

Senate Rules Committee Amendment, 2/24/25

The Senate Rules Committee Amendment would strike the words "Reciprocal Agreements With Other States" from the title of NMSA 1978, Section 29-19-12. This amendment is consistent with the removal of reciprocity from NMSA 29-19-12 and relocating to a new section, as described above. This change does not affect the legal analysis herein in any other way.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Note: major assumptions underlying fiscal impact should be documented.

Note: if additional operating budget impact is estimated, assumptions and calculations should be reported in this section.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

None.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

None.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

None.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

Conflict with HB 83, which would allow adults to carry loaded concealed firearms without a

permit. That would make the entire Concealed Handgun Carry Act superfluous.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

None.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

None.

ALTERNATIVES

None.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Status quo.

AMENDMENTS

None.