

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 868

S.P. 313

In Senate, March 12, 2015

An Act To Remove Limitations on Reciprocity for Concealed Handguns Permits

Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis.

Cosponsored by Representative MASTRACCIO of Sanford and

Senators: BRAKEY of Androscoggin, CYRWAY of Kennebec, DUTREMBLE of York,
LIBBY of Androscoggin, WHITTEMORE of Somerset, Representatives: GILBERT of Jay,
MARTIN of Sinclair, SHAW of Standish.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 25 MRSA §2001-A, sub-§2, ¶F, as repealed and replaced by PL 2011, c. 691, Pt. A, §24, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

F. A handgun carried by a person to whom a valid permit to carry a concealed handgun has been issued by that person's state of residence if that person's state of residence honors a permit to carry a concealed handgun issued under this chapter;

Sec. 2. 25 MRSA §2003, sub-§11, as amended by PL 2011, c. 298, §7, is further amended to read:

11. Permit to be in permit holder's immediate possession. Every permit holder, including a nonresident who holds a permit issued by the nonresident's state of residence, shall have the holder's permit in the holder's immediate possession at all times when carrying a concealed handgun and shall display the same on demand of any law enforcement officer. A person charged with violating this subsection may not be adjudicated as having committed a civil violation if that person produces in court the concealed handgun permit that was valid at the time of the issuance of a summons to court or, if the holder exhibits the permit to a law enforcement officer designated by the summonsing officer not later than 24 hours before the time set for the court appearance, a complaint may not be issued.

SUMMARY

Current law authorizes the Chief of the State Police to grant reciprocity to a permit to carry a concealed handgun issued from another state if the other state has substantially equivalent or stricter requirements for the issuance of a permit and the other state observes the same rules of reciprocity regarding a person issued a permit under Maine law.

This bill removes the authority of the Chief of the State Police to enter into reciprocity agreements and eliminates the required equivalency provisions and simply recognizes a concealed handgun permit issued to a person by that person's state of residence if that person's state of residence honors a permit to carry a concealed handgun issued under Maine law.