

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 1164

H.P. 861

House of Representatives, March 5, 2003

**An Act To Allow a Victim of Domestic Violence To Carry a Firearm
without a Concealed Firearm Permit**

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative VAUGHAN of Durham.
Cosponsored by Representatives: GOODWIN of Pembroke, JOY of Crystal, Senator: DAVIS
of Piscataquis.

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

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Sec. 1. 25 MRSA §2001, sub-§6. as amended by PL 2001, c. 459, §1, is further amended to read:

6. Licensed hunters and trappers. Firearms carried by any person engaged in conduct for which a state-issued hunting or trapping license is required and possessing the required license, or firearms carried by a resident person engaged in conduct expressly authorized by Title 12, section 7377, subsections 1 and 2. This subsection does not authorize or permit the carrying of a concealed or loaded firearm in a motor vehicle; and

Sec. 2. 25 MRSA §2001, sub-§7. ¶B. as enacted by PL 2001, c. 459, §2, is amended to read:

B. The other state that issued the permit to carry a concealed firearm observes the same rules of reciprocity in regards to a person issued a permit to carry a concealed firearm under this chapter; and

Sec. 3. 25 MRSA §2001, sub-§8 is enacted to read:

8. Victims of domestic violence. A firearm carried by a person who has been the victim of a crime of domestic violence, as long as that person has completed, and possesses written proof of successful completion of, a course that included handgun safety offered by or under the supervision of a federal, state, county or municipal law enforcement agency or a firearms instructor certified by a private firearms association recognized as knowledgeable in matters of firearms safety by the issuing authority or by the state in which the course was taken. A course completion certificate or other document, or a photocopy of the certificate, is sufficient as proof of successful completion if it states or otherwise demonstrates that the course met all of the requirements of this subsection. This subsection does not apply to a person who has been convicted of murder or a Class A, B or C crime in this State or a crime that is considered a felony in another state.

SUMMARY

This bill allows a person who has been the victim of a crime of domestic violence to carry a concealed firearm without obtaining a permit. The person must carry proof of successful completion of a handgun safety course. A person convicted of a felony, i.e., murder or a Class A, B or C crime in this State, is not eligible.