

HB 2442 -- FIREARMS

SPONSOR: Davis

This bill removes the power of political subdivisions pursuant to Section 21.750, RSMo, to enact or adopt orders, ordinances, or regulations restricting the open carrying of firearms within their jurisdictions in accordance with controlling law.

This bill removes the act of knowingly carrying a concealed knife, firearm, blackjack, or other weapon into any area where firearms are restricted by law as an offense of unlawful use of a weapon pursuant to Section 571.030. This bill provides a person commits the offense of unlawful possession of a firearm if such person knowingly has any firearm in their possession and has been convicted of a dangerous felony, as defined under Section 556.061, or is on probation or parole for any felony offense.

This bill lowers the required age to be issued a concealed carry permit from 19 years old or older to 18 years old or older.

Currently, Section 571.107 lists areas in which the concealed carry of weapons are prohibited by law. This bill removes from this list:

- (1) Any police, sheriff, or highway patrol office or station without the consent of the chief law enforcement officer in charge of that office or station;
- (2) Within 25 feet of any polling place on any election day;
- (3) The facility of any adult or juvenile detention or correctional institution, prison, or jail;
- (4) Any courthouse solely occupied by the circuit, appellate, or supreme court, or any courtrooms, administrative offices, libraries or other rooms of any such court whether or not such court solely occupies the building in question;
- (5) Any meeting of the governing body of a unit of local government, or any meeting of the General Assembly or a committee of the General Assembly;
- (6) Any higher education institution or elementary or secondary school facility without the consent of the governing body of the higher education institution or a school official or the district school board;
- (7) Any portion of a building used as a child care facility without the consent of the manager;

(8) Any riverboat gambling operation accessible by the public without the consent of the owner or manager pursuant to rules promulgated by the Gaming Commission;

(9) Any gated area of an amusement park;

(10) Any church or other place of worship without the consent of the minister or person representing the religious organization that exercises control over such place;

(11) Any sports arena or stadium with a seating capacity of 5,000 or more; and

(12) Any hospital accessible by the public.

Private institutions and entities including churches and other places of worship, amusement parks, childcare facilities, private educational institutions, privately owned sports arenas or stadiums, and private hospitals are authorized to prohibit firearms on their property by complying with posting and notice requirements pursuant to law.