

Sixty-third  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

## REENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1327

Introduced by

Representatives Porter, Karls, Louser, Maragos, Owens, Trottier

Senators Armstrong, Schaible

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact subsection 3 to section 12-60-24 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to criminal history record checks; and to amend and reenact  
3 subsections 1 and 6 of section 62.1-01-01 and sections 62.1-01-03, 62.1-02-05, 62.1-02-10,  
4 62.1-03-01, 62.1-03-05, and 62.1-04-03 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to  
5 concealed weapons laws.

6 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

7 **SECTION 1.** Subsection 3 to section 12-60-24 of the North Dakota Century Code is created  
8 and enacted as follows:

9 3. a. The bureau of criminal investigation shall conduct a statewide and nationwide  
10 criminal history record check for the purpose of determining eligibility for a  
11 concealed weapons license for each applicant for an initial license or the renewal  
12 of a concealed weapons license under chapter 62.1-04. The nationwide criminal  
13 history record check must include an inquiry of the national instant criminal  
14 background check system, and if the applicant is not a United States citizen, an  
15 immigration alien query.

16 b. Each applicant for a concealed weapons license shall provide to the bureau of  
17 criminal investigation written consent to conduct the criminal history record  
18 check, to maintain, release, and disclose the information in accordance with state  
19 and federal law, and to make a determination on the application; two sets of  
20 fingerprints from a law enforcement agency or other individual authorized to take  
21 fingerprints; and any other information required under chapter 62.1-04. The  
22 person who takes fingerprints under this subsection may charge a reasonable fee  
23 for fingerprinting.

1           c. The bureau of criminal investigation shall resubmit the fingerprints to the federal  
2           bureau of investigation. Except as otherwise provided by law, federal bureau of  
3           investigation criminal history record information is confidential.

4           **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 1 of section 62.1-01-01 of the North Dakota  
5 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

- 6           1. "Dangerous weapon" includes any switchblade or gravity knife, machete, scimitar,  
7           stiletto, sword, dagger, or knife with a blade of five inches [12.7 centimeters] or more;  
8           any throwing star, nunchaku, or other martial arts weapon; any billy, blackjack, sap,  
9           bludgeon, cudgel, metal knuckles, or sand club; any slungshot; any bow and arrow,  
10          crossbow, or spear; any stun-gun; any weapon that will expel, or is readily capable of  
11          expelling, a projectile by the action of a spring, compressed air, or compressed gas,  
12          including any such weapon, loaded or unloaded, commonly referred to as a BB gun,  
13          air rifle, or CO2 gun; and any projector of a bomb or any object containing or capable  
14          of producing and emitting any noxious liquid, gas, or substance. "Dangerous weapon"  
15          does not include a spray or aerosol containing CS, also known as ortho-  
16          chlorobenzamalonitrile; CN, also known as alpha-chloroacetophenone; or other  
17          irritating agent intended for use in the defense of an individual, nor does the term  
18          include a device that uses direct contact to deliver voltage for the defense of an  
19          individual.

20          **SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 6 of section 62.1-01-01 of the North Dakota  
21 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

- 22          6. "Handgun" means any firearm that is not designed to be fired from the shoulder, which  
23          has a barrel less than sixteen inches [40.64 centimeters] long, and which is capable of  
24          firing, by the energy of an explosive in a fixed metallic cartridge, an exposed projectile  
25          through a rifled bore. The term includes ~~the Thompson contender forty five caliber~~  
26          ~~single shot center fire with a pistol grip or similar firearm~~ all firearms that are designed  
27          to be readily modified between rifle and pistol forms, if in compliance with the National  
28          Firearms Act [26 U.S.C. 5801-5872].

29          **SECTION 4. AMENDMENT.** Section 62.1-01-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
30 amended and reenacted as follows:

1           **62.1-01-03. Limitation on authority of political subdivision regarding firearms.**

2           No political subdivision, including home rule cities or counties, may not enact any  
3 ordinance relating to the purchase, sale, ownership, possession, transfer of ownership,  
4 registration, or licensure of firearms and ammunition which is more restrictive than state law. All  
5 such existing ordinances are void.

6           **SECTION 5. AMENDMENT.** Section 62.1-02-05 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
7 amended and reenacted as follows:

8           **62.1-02-05. Possession of a firearm or dangerous weapon at a public gathering -**  
9 **Penalty - Application.**

- 10           1. ~~A person~~An individual who possesses a firearm or dangerous weapon at a public  
11 gathering is guilty of a class B misdemeanor. For the purpose of this section, "public  
12 gathering" includes athletic or sporting events, schools or school functions, churches  
13 or church functions, political rallies or functions, musical concerts, and individuals in  
14 publicly owned parks where hunting is not allowed by proclamation and publicly owned  
15 or operated buildings. ~~The term "public gathering" does not apply to a state or federal~~  
16 ~~park.~~
- 17           2. This section does not apply to law:  
18           a. ~~A law enforcement officers~~officer; ~~members~~  
19           b. ~~A member~~ of the armed forces of the United States or national guard, organized  
20 reserves, state defense forces, or state guard organizations, when on duty;  
21           competitors  
22           c. ~~A competitor~~ participating in an organized sport shooting eventevent; ~~gun and~~  
23           d. ~~A gun or antique show~~show; ~~participants~~  
24           e. ~~A participant~~ using a blank cartridge ~~firearms~~firearm at a sporting or theatrical  
25           eventevent; ~~any firearms~~  
26           f. ~~A firearm or dangerous weapon~~ carried in a temporary residence or motor  
27           vehicle; ~~students and instructors~~  
28           g. ~~A student and an instructor~~ at a hunter safety ~~classes~~class; ~~or private~~  
29           h. ~~Private~~ security personnel while on duty. ~~In addition, a;~~  
30           i. ~~A state or federal park;~~

- 1           j. An instructor, a test administrator, an official, or a participant in educational,  
2           training, cultural, or competitive events involving the authorized use of a  
3           dangerous weapon if the event occurs with permission of the person or entity  
4           with authority over the function or premises in question; and
- 5           k. A municipal court judge licensed to practice law in this state, a district court  
6           judge, a staff member of the office of attorney general, and a retired North Dakota  
7           law enforcement officer are exempt from the prohibition and penalty in  
8           subsection 4, if the individual maintains the same level of firearms proficiency as  
9           is required by the peace officer standards and training board for law enforcement  
10           officers. A local law enforcement agency shall issue a certificate of compliance  
11           under this section to an individual who is proficient.
- 12           3. This section does not prevent any political subdivision from enacting an ordinance  
13           which that is less restrictive than this section relating to the possession of firearms or  
14           dangerous weapons at a public gathering. ~~Such an~~An enacted ordinance supersedes  
15           this section within the jurisdiction of the political subdivision.

16           **SECTION 6. AMENDMENT.** Section 62.1-02-10 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
17           amended and reenacted as follows:

18           **62.1-02-10. Carrying loaded firearm in vehicle - Penalty - Exceptions.**

19           ~~No person~~An individual may not keep or carry a loaded firearm in or on any motor vehicle in  
20           this state. ~~Any person~~An individual violating this section is guilty of a class B misdemeanor. This  
21           prohibition does not apply to:

- 22           1. A member of the armed forces of the United States or national guard, organized  
23           reserves, state defense forces, or state guard organizations while possessing the  
24           firearm issued to the member by the organization and while on official duty.
- 25           2. A law enforcement officer, except while the officer is engaged in hunting or trapping  
26           activities with a rifle or shotgun.
- 27           3. ~~Any person~~An individual possessing a valid North Dakota concealed weapons license  
28           or a valid license issued by another state authorizing the ~~person~~individual to carry a  
29           firearm or dangerous weapon concealed if that state permits a holder of a valid North  
30           Dakota concealed weapons license to carry a firearm or dangerous weapon concealed

1 in that state without obtaining a similar license from that state, except while that  
2 ~~person~~individual is in the field engaged in hunting or trapping activities.

3 4. ~~Any person~~An individual in the field engaged in lawful hunting or trapping of nongame  
4 species or fur-bearing animals.

5 5. A security guard or private investigator properly licensed to carry firearms ~~by the~~  
6 ~~attorney general~~.

7 6. ~~Any person~~An individual possessing a valid special permit issued pursuant to section  
8 20.1-02-05.

9 **SECTION 7. AMENDMENT.** Section 62.1-03-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
10 amended and reenacted as follows:

11 **62.1-03-01. Carrying handgun - Restrictions - Exceptions.**

12 1. ~~A~~An unloaded handgun may be carried by a ~~person~~an individual not otherwise  
13 ~~prohibited from possessing one by section 62.1-02-01 or any other state statute, in a~~  
14 ~~manner not prohibited by section 62.1-02-10 if:~~

15 a. Between the hours of one hour before sunrise and one hour after sunset, the  
16 handgun is ~~carried unloaded and either~~ in plain view or is secured.

17 b. Between the hours of one hour after sunset and one hour before sunrise, the  
18 handgun is ~~carried unloaded and~~ secured.

19 2. The restrictions provided in subdivisions a and b of subsection 1 do not apply to:

20 a. ~~Any person~~An individual possessing a valid ~~North Dakota~~ concealed weapons  
21 license from this state or a valid license issued by another state authorizing the  
22 person to carry a dangerous weapon concealed if that state permits a holder of a  
23 valid North Dakota concealed weapons license to carry a dangerous weapon  
24 concealed in that state without obtaining a similar license from that state who has  
25 reciprocity under section 62.1-04-03.1.

26 b. ~~Any person~~An individual on that person's land, or in that ~~person's~~individual's  
27 permanent or temporary residence, or fixed place of business.

28 c. ~~Any person~~An individual while lawfully engaged in target shooting.

29 d. ~~Any person~~An individual while in the field engaging in the lawful pursuit of hunting  
30 or trapping. However, nothing in this exception authorizes the carrying of a  
31 loaded handgun in a motor vehicle.

- 1 e. ~~Any person~~An individual permitted by law to possess a ~~handgun~~firearm while  
2 carrying the handgun unloaded and in a secure wrapper from the place of  
3 purchase to that person's home or place of business, or to a place of repair or  
4 back from those locations.
- 5 f. Any North Dakota law enforcement officer.
- 6 g. Any law enforcement officer of any other state or political subdivision ~~thereof~~  
7 another state if on official duty within this state.
- 8 h. Any armed security guard or investigator as authorized by ~~the attorney-~~  
9 generallaw when on duty or going to or from duty.
- 10 i. Any member of the armed forces of the United States when on duty or going to or  
11 from duty and when carrying the handgun issued to the member.
- 12 j. Any member of the national guard, organized reserves, state defense forces, or  
13 state guard organizations, when on duty or going to or from duty and when  
14 carrying the handgun issued to the member by the organization.
- 15 k. Any officer or employee of the United States duly authorized to carry a handgun.
- 16 l. ~~Any person~~An individual engaged in manufacturing, repairing, or dealing in  
17 handguns or the agent or representative of ~~such~~that personindividual possessing,  
18 using, or carrying a handgun in the usual or ordinary course of ~~such~~the business.
- 19 m. Any common carrier, but only when carrying the handgun as part of the cargo in  
20 the usual cargo carrying portion of the vehicle.

21 **SECTION 8. AMENDMENT.** Section 62.1-03-05 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
22 amended and reenacted as follows:

23 **62.1-03-05. Prohibited alterations in handgunfirearms.**

24 ~~No~~A person may not change, alter, remove, or obliterate any mark of identification on a  
25 ~~handgunfirearm~~, ~~such as~~including the name of the maker, model, or manufacturer's number or  
26 knowingly possess a ~~handgunfirearm~~ on which ~~such~~these alterations have been made.  
27 Possession of any ~~handgunfirearm~~ upon which any ~~such~~ identification mark has been changed,  
28 altered, removed, or obliterated creates a rebuttable presumption that the possessor made the  
29 alterations.

30 **SECTION 9. AMENDMENT.** Section 62.1-04-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
31 amended and reenacted as follows:

1           **62.1-04-03. License to carry a firearm or dangerous weapon concealed - Class 1**  
2 **firearm license and class 2 firearm and dangerous weapon license.**

3           1. The director of the bureau of criminal investigation shall issue a license to carry a  
4 firearm or dangerous weapon concealed upon review of an application submitted to  
5 the director ~~by a resident or nonresident citizen of the United States~~ if the following  
6 criteria are met:

7           a. The applicant is at least twenty-one years of age for a class 1 firearm license or  
8 at least eighteen years of age for a class 2 firearm and dangerous weapon  
9 license.;

10          b. ~~The applicant has a valid reason for carrying the firearm or dangerous weapon~~  
11 ~~concealed, including self-protection, protection of others, or work-related~~  
12 ~~needs.~~ can demonstrate that the applicant is a resident of this state by providing a  
13 copy of a valid driver's license or state-issued identification card from this state  
14 that establishes personal identification through photographic means and shows  
15 the applicant's name associated with a valid residential street address in this  
16 state or the applicant possess a valid driver's license from the applicant's state of  
17 residence that establishes personal identification through photographic means  
18 and shows the applicant's name associated with a valid residential street address  
19 and a valid concealed weapons license from the applicant's state of residence,  
20 which state has reciprocity with this state under section 62.1-04-03.1;

21          c. The applicant is not ~~a person~~ an individual specified in section 62.1-02-01 and for  
22 a class 1 firearm license the applicant:

23           (1) Has not been convicted of a felony;

24           (2) Has not been convicted of a crime of violence;

25           (3) Has not been convicted of an offense involving the use of alcohol within ten  
26 years prior to the date of application;

27           (4) Has not been convicted of ~~an~~ a misdemeanor offense involving the unlawful  
28 use of narcotics or other controlled substances within ten years prior to the  
29 date of application;

30           (5) Has not been convicted of an offense involving moral turpitude;

31           (6) Has not been convicted of an offense involving domestic violence;

1 (7) Has not been adjudicated by a state or federal court as mentally  
2 incompetent, unless the adjudication has been withdrawn or reversed; and

3 (8) Is qualified to purchase and possess a firearm under federal law;

4 d. ~~The applicant has the written approval for the issuance of a license from the~~  
5 ~~sheriff of the applicant's county of residence, and, if the city has one, the chief of~~  
6 ~~police or a designee of the city in which the applicant resides. The approval by~~  
7 ~~the sheriff may not be given until the applicant has successfully completed a~~  
8 ~~background investigation in that county and has successfully completed the~~  
9 ~~testing procedure conducted by a certified firearm or dangerous weapon~~  
10 ~~instructor~~ test administrator. The person conducting the testing may assess a  
11 charge of up to fifty dollars for conducting this testing. The attorney general may  
12 certify a ~~firearm or dangerous weapon instructor~~ test administrator based upon  
13 criteria and guidelines prescribed by the director of the bureau of criminal  
14 investigation;

15 e. The applicant satisfactorily completes the bureau of criminal investigation  
16 application form and has successfully passed ~~a background investigation or the~~  
17 ~~criminal history records check conducted by that agency~~ the bureau of criminal  
18 investigation and the federal bureau of investigation. ~~To pass a background~~  
19 ~~investigation, an~~ The applicant shall provide all documentation relating to any  
20 court-ordered treatment or commitment for mental health or alcohol or substance  
21 abuse ~~or incidents of domestic violence~~. The applicant shall provide the director  
22 of the bureau of criminal investigation written authorizations for disclosure of the  
23 applicant's mental health and alcohol or substance abuse evaluation and  
24 treatment records. The bureau may deny approval for a class 1 firearm license if  
25 the bureau has reasonable cause to believe that the applicant or  
26 ~~permitholder~~ licenseholder has been or is a danger to self or others as  
27 demonstrated by evidence, including past pattern of behavior involving unlawful  
28 violence or threats of unlawful violence; past participation in incidents involving  
29 unlawful violence or threats of unlawful violence; or conviction of a weapons  
30 offense. In determining whether the applicant or ~~permitholder~~ licenseholder has



- 1           been or is a danger to self or others, the bureau may inspect expunged records  
2           of arrests and convictions of adults and juvenile court records; and
- 3           f. The applicant is not prohibited under federal law from owning, possessing, or  
4           having a firearm under that ~~person's~~individual's control.
- 5           2. The attorney general shall offer class 1 firearm and class 2 firearm and dangerous  
6           weapon licenses to carry a firearm or dangerous weapon concealed ~~pursuant to~~under  
7           the following requirements:
- 8           a. An applicant for a class 1 firearm license shall successfully participate in a  
9           classroom instruction that sets forth weapon safety rules and the deadly force law  
10          of North Dakota, complete an open book test based upon a manual, demonstrate  
11          familiarity with a firearm ~~or dangerous weapon~~, and complete an actual shooting  
12          or certified proficiency exercise. Evidence of familiarity with a firearm ~~or~~  
13          ~~dangerous weapon~~ to be concealed may be satisfied by one of the following:
- 14          (1) Certification of familiarity with a firearm ~~or dangerous weapon~~ by an  
15          individual who has been certified by the attorney general, which may include  
16          a law enforcement officer, military or civilian firearms instructor, or hunter  
17          safety instructor, ~~or dangerous weapon instructor~~;
- 18          (2) Evidence of equivalent experience with a firearm ~~or dangerous weapon~~  
19          through participation in an organized shooting competition, law  
20          enforcement, or military service, ~~or dangerous weapon course of training~~;
- 21          (3) Possession of a license from another state to carry a firearm ~~or dangerous~~  
22          ~~weapon~~, concealed or otherwise, which is granted by that state upon  
23          completion of a course described in paragraphs 1 and 2; or
- 24          (4) Evidence that the applicant, during military service, was found to be  
25          qualified to operate a firearm ~~or dangerous weapon~~.
- 26          b. An applicant for a class 2 firearm and dangerous weapon license is required to  
27          successfully complete the open book test offered for the class 1 firearm license.
- 28          c. A North Dakota resident who has a valid class one firearm license also may  
29          carry a class two dangerous weapon without any further testing required.
- 30          d. Licenses issued before August 1, 2009, regardless of the age of the  
31          licenseholder, convert to a class 2 license upon renewal and no

1            ~~additional~~Additional testing is not required. ~~No additional testing is required to~~  
2            renew a class 2 ~~concealed weapons~~firearm and dangerous weapon license. A  
3            class 1 firearm license may be renewed upon successful completion of the  
4            class 1 firearm requirements within ~~one year~~thirty days before submission of the  
5            application for renewal. ~~A license issued under this section before August 1,~~  
6            ~~2009, and a class 2 license may be upgraded to a class 1 license upon~~  
7            ~~successful completion of the class 1 requirements and satisfaction of the age~~  
8            ~~requirement.~~

9            3. The director of the bureau of criminal investigation shall send by mail to a holder of a  
10           license a notice of the procedures for renewal of the license issued under this section.  
11           The director shall give the notice at least one hundred fifty days but not more than one  
12           hundred eighty days before the expiration of the license.

13           4. ~~The sheriff is required to process the application within thirty days after the completion~~  
14           ~~of the testing portion unless the application is for renewal of a license and in such case~~  
15           ~~the application must be processed within thirty days after its receipt by the sheriff, the~~  
16           ~~chief of police is required to process the application within ten working days of receipt~~  
17           ~~by the agency, and the bureau of criminal investigation is required to process the~~  
18           ~~application and make a determination within forty five~~sixty ~~days of receipt from the~~  
19           ~~forwarding agency of the properly completed application.~~

20           4.5. ~~The license fee for a concealed weapons license is forty five dollars, which must be~~  
21           ~~credited to the attorney general's operating fund. The license fee~~All fees ~~must be paid~~  
22           ~~before the license is issued~~application may be processed by the director of the bureau  
23           of criminal investigation. The attorney general shall list the fees associated with the  
24           license, including the costs of the fingerprint-based federal criminal history record  
25           check, in the attorney general's administrative rules.

26           5.6. The director of the bureau of criminal investigation shall prescribe the form of the  
27           application and license, which must include the name, address, description, a  
28           photograph, and the signature of the individual. The application form must require  
29           sufficient information to properly conduct a ~~background investigation~~the criminal  
30           history record check and be accompanied by ~~two~~;

- 1           a. A photocopy of a valid driver's license or identification card issued by this state  
2           which establishes personal identification through photographic means and shows  
3           the applicant's name associated with a valid residential street address in this  
4           state or a valid state-issued driver's license from the applicant's state of  
5           residence which establishes personal identification through photographic means  
6           and shows the applicant's name associated with a valid residential street address  
7           and a valid concealed weapons license from the applicant's state of residence,  
8           which has reciprocity with this state under section 62.1-04-03.1; and
- 9           b. Two sets of classifiable fingerprints. The two sets of classifiable fingerprints are  
10           not required for a renewal of a concealed weapons license. The license is valid  
11           for five years. The original license must be prepared in triplicate, and the original  
12           must be delivered to the licensee, the duplicate must be sent by mail, within  
13           seven days after issuance, to the sheriff of the county in which the applicant  
14           resides, and the triplicate and an electronic copy must be preserved for six years  
15           by the director. In those cases in which the licensee resides in a city, an  
16           additional copy of the license must be made and sent by mail, within seven days  
17           after issuance, to the chief of police of the city in which the applicant  
18           resides. Access to license information must be available to law enforcement  
19           through electronic means for official law enforcement purposes. The  
20           individual applicant or licenseholder shall notify the director of the bureau of  
21           criminal investigation of any change of address or any other material fact which  
22           would affect the restrictions on or the need for the license.
- 23        ~~6.7.~~ The director of the bureau of criminal investigation may deny an application or revoke  
24           or cancel a license after it has been granted for any material misstatement by an  
25           applicant in an application for the license or any violation of this title.
- 26        ~~7.8.~~ The applicant may appeal a denial or revocation of this license to the district court of  
27           Burleigh County.
- 28        ~~8.9.~~ Information collected from an applicant under this section is confidential information.  
29           However, the information may be disclosed:
- 30           a. To a governmental agency or court for a law enforcement purpose, including the  
31           investigation, prosecution, or punishment of a violation of law.

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- 1            b. To a court to aid in a decision concerning sentence, probation, or release pending
- 2            trial or appeal.
- 3            c. Pursuant to a court order or a judicial, legislative, or administrative agency
- 4            subpoena issued in this state.
- 5    ~~9-10.~~ The attorney general may adopt any rules necessary to ~~carry out~~implement this title.