

Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** HB797

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed
Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. **Patron:** Hope

3. **Committee:** Committee Referral Pending

4. **Title:** Demonstrated competence for a concealed handgun permit; firearms instructors and safety programs.

5. **Summary:** Requires that any course, class, or training to demonstrate competence with a handgun as required to obtain a concealed handgun permit must include a live fire shooting exercise conducted on a range, including the expenditure of a minimum of 10 rounds of ammunition, and provides that no course, class, or training that does not include such live fire shooting exercise meets the requirements to obtain a concealed handgun permit. The bill removes references to the National Rifle Association (the NRA) and the United States Concealed Carry Association from the Code that allow the organizations to certify ranges and instructors and for courses offered by them to serve as proof of demonstrated competence in firearms safety and training for the purpose of obtaining a concealed handgun permit or receiving training as a minor in the use of pneumatic guns. The bill also repeals authority for special license plates in support of the NRA.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes, Item 391.

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary (see Item 8 below).

8. **Fiscal Implications:** This bill requires person who seeks to carry a concealed handgun permit to complete a firearms safety or training course certified or approved by DCJS. The proposal also requires the person to complete any in-person firearms training safety course or class conducted by a state-certified or DCJS approved instructor.

DCJS estimates that it may need up to three positions to develop a certification and approval process for firearms safety training for the general public, as well as a database for managing and tracking such certifications. The estimated annual cost for a program manager is \$123,250 (including benefits), and the estimated annual cost for a criminal justice analyst is \$108,750 (including benefits).

In addition to increased personnel costs, DCJS believes that the agency would need to add a module to the current training tracking system to track the persons who are being trained to the extent tracking is required. DCJS reports an estimated one-time cost of up to \$150,000 would be needed to make the enhancement to their current tracking system.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Criminal Justice Services, Department of Motor Vehicles, local school boards.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.