1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA 2 1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025) 3 SENATE BILL 768 By: Bullard 4 5 6 AS INTRODUCED 7 An Act relating to firearms; amending 21 O.S. 2021, Sections 1272 and 1277, which relate to unlawful 8 carry of firearms; authorizing licensed first responders to carry while performing official duties; 9 authorizing certain agreements; defining term; excluding voluntary first responders; updating 10 statutory language and references; and providing an effective date. 11 12 13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA: 14 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 21 O.S. 2021, Section 1272, is 15 amended to read as follows: 16 Section 1272. 17 UNLAWFUL CARRY 18 A. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, it shall be 19 unlawful for any person to carry upon or about his or her person, or 20 in a purse or other container belonging to the person, any pistol, 21 revolver, shotgun, or rifle, whether loaded or unloaded, or any 22 blackjack, loaded cane, hand chain, metal knuckles, or any other

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except this section shall not prohibit:

offensive weapon, whether such weapon be concealed or unconcealed,

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1. The proper use of guns and knives for self-defense, hunting, fishing, $\underline{\text{or}}$ educational or recreational purposes;

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- 2. The carrying or use of weapons in a manner otherwise permitted by statute or authorized by the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act;
- 3. The carrying, possession, and use of any weapon by a peace officer or other person authorized by law to carry a weapon in the performance of official duties and in compliance with the rules of the employing agency;
- The carrying, possession, and use of a handgun by a first 4. responder who possesses a valid handgun license issued pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act and who is acting in the course and scope of employment and in compliance with the rules of the employing agency on any public or private property in this state. For a first responder to carry, possess, or use a handgun on trust land of a federally recognized Indian tribe, a political subdivision may enter into intergovernmental cooperative agreements with a federally recognized Indian tribe as authorized by Section 1221 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Any intergovernmental cooperative agreement entered into between a political subdivision and a federally recognized Indian tribe related to first responder services shall be agreed upon before a first responder carries, possesses, or uses a handgun on such trust land. As provided in this paragraph, "first responder" means a firefighter or licensed emergency medical personnel as defined in Section 1-2503 of Title 63

of the Oklahoma Statutes but shall not include a voluntary first responder;

<u>5.</u> The carrying or use of weapons in a courthouse by a district judge, associate district judge, or special district judge within this state, who is in possession of a valid handgun license issued pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act and whose name appears on a list maintained by the Administrative Director of the Courts;

5. 6. The carrying and use of firearms and other weapons provided in this subsection when used for the purpose of living history reenactment. For purposes of this paragraph, "living history reenactment" means depiction of historical characters, scenes, historical life, or events for entertainment, education, or historical documentation through the wearing or use of period, historical, antique, or vintage clothing, accessories, firearms, weapons, and other implements of the historical period; or

6. 7. The transporting by vehicle on a public roadway or the carrying of a firearm, concealed or unconcealed, loaded or unloaded, by a person who is twenty-one (21) years of age or older or by a person who is eighteen (18) years of age but not yet twenty-one (21) years of age and the person is a member or veteran of the United States Armed Forces, Reserves, or National Guard or was discharged under honorable conditions from the United States Armed Forces, Reserves, or National Guard, and the person is otherwise not

disqualified from the possession or purchase of a firearm under state or federal law and is not carrying the firearm in furtherance of a crime.

Except as provided in subsection B of Section 1283 of this title, a person who has been convicted of any one of the following offenses in this state or a violation of the equivalent law of another state:

- a. assault and battery pursuant to the provisions of Section 644 of this title which caused serious physical injury to the victim,
- b. aggravated assault and battery pursuant to the provisions of Section 646 of this title,
- c. assault and battery that qualifies as domestic abuse as defined in Section 644 of this title,
- d. stalking pursuant to the provisions of Section 1173 of this title,
- e. a violation of an order issued under the Protection from Domestic Abuse Act or a domestic abuse protection order issued by another state, or
- f. a violation relating to illegal drug use or possession under the provisions of the Uniform Controlled

 Dangerous Substances Act,

shall be prohibited from carrying a firearm under the provisions of this paragraph subsection. Any person who carries a firearm in the

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manner provided for in this paragraph subsection shall be prohibited from carrying the firearm into any of the places prohibited in subsection A of Section 1277 of this title or any other place currently prohibited by law. Nothing in this section shall modify or otherwise change where a person may legally carry a firearm.

B. Any person convicted of violating the foregoing provision shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable as provided in Section 1276 of this title.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 21 O.S. 2021, Section 1277, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1277.

UNLAWFUL CARRY IN CERTAIN PLACES

- A. It shall be unlawful for any person, including a person in possession of a valid handgun license issued pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act, to carry any concealed or unconcealed firearm into any of the following places:
- 1. Any structure, building, or office space which is owned or leased by a city, town, county, state, or federal governmental authority for the purpose of conducting business with the public;
- 2. Any courthouse, courtroom, prison, jail, detention facility, or any facility used to process, hold, or house arrested persons, prisoners, or persons alleged delinquent or adjudicated delinquent, except as provided in Section 21 of Title 57 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

- 3. Any public or private elementary or public or private secondary school, except as provided in subsections C and D of this section;
- 4. Any publicly owned or operated sports arena or venue during a professional sporting event, unless allowed by the event holder;
- 5. Any place where gambling is authorized by law, unless allowed by the property owner;
 - 6. Any other place specifically prohibited by law; and
- 7. Any property set aside by a county, city, town, public trust with a county, city, or town as a beneficiary, or state governmental authority for an event that is secured with minimum-security provisions. For purposes of this paragraph, a minimum-security provision consists of a location that is secured utilizing the following:
 - a. a metallic-style security fence that is at least eight

 (8) feet in height that encompasses the property and

 is secured in such a way as to deter unauthorized

 entry,
 - controlled access points staffed by a uniformed,
 commissioned peace officer, and
 - c. a metal detector whereby persons walk or otherwise travel with their property through or by the metal detector.

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- It shall be lawful for a person to carry a concealed or unconcealed firearm on the following properties:
- 1. Any property set aside for the use or parking of any vehicle, whether attended or unattended, by a city, town, county, state, or federal governmental authority;
- 2. Any property set aside for the use or parking of any vehicle, whether attended or unattended, which is open to the public, or by any entity engaged in gambling authorized by law;
- 3. Any property adjacent to a structure, building, or office space in which concealed or unconcealed weapons are prohibited by the provisions of this section;
- 4. Any property designated by a city, town, county, or state governmental authority as a park, recreational area, wildlife refuge, wildlife management area, or fairgrounds; provided, nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to authorize any entry by a person in possession of a concealed or unconcealed firearm into any structure, building, office space, or event which is specifically prohibited by the provisions of subsection A of this section;
- 5. Any property set aside by a public or private elementary or secondary school for the use or parking of any vehicle, whether attended or unattended; provided, however, the firearm shall be stored and hidden from view in a locked motor vehicle when the motor vehicle is left unattended on school property; and

6. Any public property set aside temporarily by a county, city, town, public trust with a county, city, or town as a beneficiary, or state governmental authority for the holder of an event permit that is without minimum-security provisions, as such term is defined in paragraph 7 of subsection A of this section; provided, the carry of firearms within said such permitted event area shall be limited to concealed carry of a handgun unless otherwise authorized by the holder of the event permit.

Nothing contained in any provision of this subsection or subsection C of this section shall be construed to authorize or allow any person in control of any place described in subsection A of this section to establish any policy or rule that has the effect of prohibiting any person in lawful possession of a handgun license or otherwise in lawful possession of a firearm from carrying or possessing the firearm on the property described in this subsection.

C. A concealed or unconcealed weapon may be carried onto private school property or in any school bus or vehicle used by any private school for transportation of students or teachers by a person who is licensed pursuant to the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act, provided a policy has been adopted by the governing entity of the private school that authorizes the carrying and possession of a weapon on private school property or in any school bus or vehicle used by a private school. Except for acts of gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct, a governing entity of a private school

that adopts a policy which authorizes the possession of a weapon on private school property, a school bus or vehicle used by the private school shall not be subject to liability for any injuries arising from the adoption of the policy. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to claims pursuant to the Administrative Workers' Compensation Act.

D. Notwithstanding paragraph 3 of subsection A of this section, a 1. A board of education of a school district may adopt a policy pursuant to Section 5-149.2 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes to authorize the carrying of a handgun onto school property by school personnel specifically designated by the board of education, provided such personnel either:

1. Possess

possesses a valid armed security guard license as a. provided for in Section 1750.1 et seq. of Title 59 of the Oklahoma Statutes;, or

2. Hold

- holds a valid reserve peace officer certification as b. provided for in Section 3311 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes.
- 2. A first responder, as defined in subparagraph 4 of subsection A of Section 1272 of this title, acting in the course and scope of employment who possesses a valid handgun license issued

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pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act may openly carry a handgun onto school property.

2. A nonprofit entity,

Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to restrict authority granted elsewhere in law to carry firearms.

- E. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection A of this section, on any property designated as a municipal zoo or park of any size that is owned, leased, operated, or managed by:
- 1. A public trust created pursuant to the provisions of Section 176 of Title 60 of the Oklahoma Statutes; or
- an individual shall be allowed to carry a concealed handgun but not openly carry a handgun on the property. A first responder acting in the course and scope of employment who possesses a valid handgun license issued pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act may openly carry a handgun onto such property.
- F. Any person violating the provisions of paragraph 2 or 3 of subsection A of this section shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00). A person violating any other provision of subsection A of this section may be denied entrance onto the property or removed from the property. If the person refuses to leave the property and a peace officer is summoned, the person may be issued a citation for an amount not to exceed Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00).

Scope of employment, no person in possession of a valid handgun license issued pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act or who is carrying or in possession of a firearm as otherwise permitted by law or who is carrying or in possession of a machete, blackjack, loaded cane, hand chain, or metal knuckles shall be authorized to carry the firearm, machete, blackjack, loaded cane, hand chain, or metal knuckles into or upon any college, university, or technology center school property, except as provided in this subsection. For purposes of this subsection, the following property shall not be construed to be college, university, or technology center school property:

- 1. Any property set aside for the use or parking of any motor vehicle, whether attended or unattended, provided the firearm, machete, blackjack, loaded cane, hand chain, or metal knuckles are carried or stored as required by law and the firearm, machete, blackjack, loaded cane, hand chain, or metal knuckles are not removed from the motor vehicle without the prior consent of the college or university president or technology center school administrator while the vehicle is on any college, university, or technology center school property;
- 2. Any property authorized for possession or use of firearms, machetes, blackjacks, loaded canes, hand chains, or metal knuckles by college, university, or technology center school policy; and

3. Any property authorized by the written consent of the college or university president or technology center school administrator, provided the written consent is carried with the firearm, machete, blackjack, loaded cane, hand chain, or metal knuckles and the valid handgun license while on college, university, or technology center school property.

The college, university, or technology center school may notify the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation within ten (10) days of a violation of any provision of this subsection by a licensee. Upon receipt of a written notification of violation, the Bureau shall give a reasonable notice to the licensee and hold a hearing. At the hearing, upon a determination that the licensee has violated any provision of this subsection, the licensee may be subject to an administrative fine of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) and may have the handgun license suspended for three (3) months.

Nothing contained in any provision of this subsection shall be construed to authorize or allow any college, university, or technology center school to establish any policy or rule that has the effect of prohibiting any person in lawful possession of a handgun license or any person in lawful possession of a firearm, machete, blackjack, loaded cane, hand chain, or metal knuckles from possession of a firearm, machete, blackjack, loaded cane, hand chain, or metal knuckles in places described in paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 of this subsection. Nothing contained in any provision of this

subsection shall be construed to limit the authority of any college, university, or technology center school in this state from taking administrative action against any student for any violation of any provision of this subsection.

H. The provisions of this section shall not apply to the following:

- Any peace officer or any person authorized by law to carry a firearm in the course of employment;
- 2. District judges, associate district judges, and special district judges, who are in possession of a valid handgun license issued pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act and whose names appear on a list maintained by the Administrative Director of the Courts, when acting in the course and scope of employment within the courthouses of this state;
- 3. Private investigators with a firearms authorization when acting in the course and scope of employment;
- 4. Elected officials An elected official of a county, who are is in possession of a valid handgun license issued pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act, may carry a concealed handgun when acting in the performance of his or her duties within the courthouses of the county in which he or she was elected. The provisions of this paragraph shall not allow the elected county official to carry the handgun into a courtroom;

1 The sheriff of any county may authorize certain employees of 2 the county, who possess a valid handgun license issued pursuant to 3 the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act, to carry a 4 concealed handgun when acting in the course and scope of employment 5 within the courthouse in the county in which the person is employed. 6 Nothing in the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act shall prohibit the sheriff 7 from requiring additional instruction or training before granting 8 authorization to carry a concealed handgun within the courthouse. 9 The provisions of this paragraph and of paragraph 6 of this 10 subsection shall not allow the county employee to carry the handgun 11 into a courtroom, sheriff's office, adult or juvenile jail or any 12 other prisoner detention area; and

6. The board of county commissioners of any county may authorize certain employees of the county, who possess a valid handgun license issued pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act, to carry a concealed handgun when acting in the course and scope of employment on county annex facilities or grounds surrounding the county courthouse; and

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- 7. A first responder who possesses a valid handgun license issued pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act who carries a handgun when acting in the course and scope of employment.
- I. For the purposes of this section, "motor vehicle" means any automobile, truck, minivan, sports utility vehicle, or motorcycle,

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    as defined in Section 1-135 of Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
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    equipped with a locked accessory container within or affixed to the
 3
    motorcycle.
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        SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.
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