

SENATE BILL 43

By Lamar

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39,  
Chapter 17, Part 13, relative to the carrying of  
firearms.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-17-1307, is amended by deleting subsection (g) and substituting:

(g)

(1) Except as provided in subdivision (g)(2), it is an exception to the application of subsection (a) that a person is carrying, whether openly or concealed, a handgun and:

(A)

(i) The person is at least twenty-one (21) years of age; or

(ii) The person is at least eighteen (18) years of age and:

(a) Is an honorably discharged or retired veteran of the United States armed forces;

(b) Is an honorably discharged member of the army national guard, the army reserve, the navy reserve, the marine corps reserve, the air national guard, the air force reserve, or the coast guard reserve, who has successfully completed a basic training program; or

(c) Is a member of the United States armed forces on active duty status or is a current member of the army national guard, the army reserve, the navy reserve, the

marine corps reserve, the air national guard, the air force reserve, or the coast guard reserve, who has successfully completed a basic training program;

(B) The person lawfully possesses the handgun; and

(C) The person is in a place where the person is lawfully present.

(2) A county legislative body may elect not to permit persons within the county to lawfully carry a handgun pursuant to the exception set out in subdivision (g)(1) by passage of a resolution. Upon passage, the resolution has the effect of eliminating the exception set out in subdivision (g)(1) to the criminal offense of unlawful carrying, as prohibited by subsection (a), within the boundaries of the county. If the county legislative body passes such a resolution, then the county must provide notice to persons present within the county by posting notice of the resolution in conspicuous public locations throughout the county. Failure to adequately comply with the notice requirement imposed by this subdivision (g)(2) does not affect the application of the exception.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-17-1314(b), is amended by adding the following new subdivision:

(5) The unlawful carrying of a firearm, as provided in § 39-17-1307(g)(2).

SECTION 3. This act takes effect July 1, 2025, the public welfare requiring it.