

**Representative Doug Owens** proposes the following substitute bill:

**SHOOTING RANGE REQUIREMENTS**

2024 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Doug Owens**

Senate Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill modifies provisions relating to shooting ranges.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms;
  - ▶ waives fees at certain public shooting ranges for military service members, veterans, peace officers and retired peace officers, and firefighters and retired firefighters;
  - ▶ exempts Department of Public Safety shooting ranges from certain requirements;
- and
- ▶ makes technical and conforming changes.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**47-3-304**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2013, Chapter 155

**47-3-305**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapter 246



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*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

Section 1. Section **47-3-304** is amended to read:

**47-3-304. Fees.**

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Firefighter" means the same as that term is defined in Section [34A-3-113](#).

(b) "Military service member" means the same as that term is defined in Section [53B-8-102](#).

(c) "Peace officer" means an officer described in Section [53-13-102](#).

(d) "Retired firefighter" means a firefighter who has become eligible, applies for, and may receive an allowance under Title 49, Utah State Retirement and Insurance Benefit Act.

(e) "Retired peace officer" means a peace officer who has become eligible, applies for, and may receive an allowance under Title 49, Utah State Retirement and Insurance Benefit Act.

(f) "Veteran" means the same as that term is defined in Section [68-3-12.5](#).

(2) Reasonable fees for the use of a shooting range to cover the incidental material and supply costs incurred by making the range available to a group, may be established by:

(a) the State Armory Board established under Title 39A, Chapter 2, State Armory Board, for a military range; and

(b) for a nonmilitary range, the state agency, institution of higher education, or political subdivision that operates or has control of the range.

~~[(2)]~~ (3) Fees for nonmilitary shooting range use may not exceed fees charged by the Department of Natural Resources for the same or similar activity.

(4) (a) Fees established under Subsection (2) are waived for firefighters, military service members, peace officers, retired firefighters, retired peace officers, and veterans at state-owned public shooting ranges.

(b) Notwithstanding Subsection [47-3-305](#)(1)(b), fees are waived for firefighters, military service members, peace officers, retired firefighters, retired peace officers, and veterans at shooting ranges that are operated as a public shooting range staffed and operated by the Division of Wildlife Resources.

(c) Waived fees under this Subsection (4) do not include materials such as clay pigeons or special targets.

57           ~~[(3)]~~ (5) Fees collected under Subsection ~~[(1)]~~ (2) shall be:

58           (a) for a shooting range operated or controlled by a state agency or an institution of  
59 higher education, deposited ~~[in]~~ into the General Fund as dedicated credits to be used for the  
60 operation and maintenance of the range; and

61           (b) for a shooting range operated or controlled by a political subdivision, deposited in  
62 the political subdivision's general fund.

63           Section 2. Section **47-3-305** is amended to read:

64           **47-3-305. Exceptions and prohibitions.**

65           (1) This part does not apply to:

66           (a) shooting ranges that are otherwise open to the public;

67           (b) shooting ranges that are operated as a public shooting range staffed by and operated  
68 by Division of Wildlife Resources;

69           (c) the Utah National Guard ranges located at Camp Williams and the Salt Lake  
70 International Airport;

71           (d) Department of Corrections ranges;

72           ~~(e)~~ (e) Department of Public Safety ranges; and

73           ~~(f)~~ (f) ranges owned, operated, or currently leased as of March 26, 2013, by a state or  
74 local public safety agency.

75           (2) (a) Firearms may not be allowed in a school building, except under the provision of  
76 Section 76-10-505.5, unless there is an outdoor entrance to the shooting range and the most  
77 direct access to the range is used.

78           (b) An outdoor entrance to a shooting range may not be blocked by fences, structures,  
79 or gates for the purpose of blocking the outdoor entrance.

80           (3) (a) Only air guns may be used in public ranges ~~[where]~~ in which the ventilation  
81 systems do not meet current OSHA standards as applied to the duration of exposure of the  
82 participants.

83           (b) For the purposes of this part, an air gun does not include a larger caliber pneumatic  
84 ~~[weapons]~~ weapon, paintball ~~[guns]~~ gun, or air ~~[shotguns]~~ shotgun.

85           (4) Group range use is a lawful, approved activity under Subsection 76-10-505.5(4)(a).

86           Section 3. **Effective date.**

87           This bill takes effect on May 1, 2024.