

Arkansas Firearms and Concealed Carry Laws Study
ALC-Game & Fish/State Police Subcommittee

(a) Beginning in October 2023, the Game & Fish/State Police Subcommittee of the Legislative Council shall meet to conduct the Arkansas Firearms and Concealed Carry Laws Study.

(b) The purpose of the study is to review the existing laws of the State of Arkansas concerning ownership, use, and possession of firearms, as well as the concealed carry laws of the state, in order to ascertain the existing rights and restrictions under the laws and recommend legislation to these laws as necessary to clarify the rights and restrictions of citizens of the State of Arkansas with regard to laws concerning firearms and concealed carry of firearms.

(c) In order to achieve the purpose of the study, the Game & Fish/State Police Subcommittee shall study the following:

(1) Issues related to firearms instructors, including:

(A) Review of uniformity regarding the qualifications to become a firearms instructor in the state, including the level of understanding and knowledge of state and federal laws related to firearms;

(B) Accountability for firearms instructors following initial certification, including continuing education requirements;

(C) Enforcement and oversight of the Arkansas State Police rules pertaining to firearms instructors;

(2) Issues related to concealed carry statutes and rules, including:

(A) Review of clarity in the laws and rules concerning enhanced concealed carry licenses, including who may carry a concealed handgun, restrictions on where a concealed handgun may be carried;

(B) Requirements in place for concealed carry instructors, including marksmanship requirements;

(3) State and federal laws governing gun possession and the interaction of those various laws; and

(4) Determining the proper entity to provide advice and guidance to the Arkansas State Police regarding possible discrepancies in the laws related to firearms.

(d)(1) On or before October 1, 2024, the Game & Fish/State Police Subcommittee shall file with the Executive Subcommittee of the Legislative Council a final written report of their activities, findings, and recommendations, including any draft legislation.

(2) Upon filing of the final report with the Executive Subcommittee, the study shall be complete.

(3) The Executive Subcommittee shall review and consider the findings and recommendations of the report and make a final recommendation to the Legislative Council no later than the December 2024 meeting of the Legislative Council.