



State of New Mexico

Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson
Governor

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New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson Signs Bill Revising Concealed Handgun Statute

Raton - Governor Bill Richardson today signed House Bill 641 (Rep. Heaton), which expands opportunities for law-abiding New Mexicans to carry concealed handguns.

“This is a bill for law-abiding citizens,” said Governor Bill Richardson. “New Mexico has made carrying a concealed handgun more accessible to for properly trained citizens, while maintaining safeguards.”

Two years ago, New Mexico joined with 34 other states in allowing citizens to carry a concealed handgun. This is a crime reduction measure that Governor Richardson supported throughout his career in Congress and during his campaign for governor. This historic legislation helps to deter criminals and provide people with additional measures to protect themselves and their families from violent, criminal attacks.

HB 641 lowers the eligible age to carry a concealed handgun from 25 to 21. License renewal changes from 2 years to 4 years, and it no longer requires that reciprocity be extended only to states with substantially similar laws. Changes to the bill also include a license fee waiver for law enforcement and their retirees.

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