

AB 1092 - Firearms: concealed carry licenses.

IN BRIEF:

Assembly Bill 1092 extends the term of Concealed Carry Weapon (CCW) licenses from 2 years to 4 years from the date of issuance.

EXISTING LAW:

Current law prohibits individuals from carrying a concealed or loaded firearm in public without a valid license. Licensing authorities must issue or renew a CCW license if specific conditions are met, including that the applicant is not disqualified and has completed the required training. Under existing law, new and renewal CCW licenses are valid for up to 2 years unless otherwise specified.

THE ISSUE:

California citizens seeking a Concealed Carry Weapon (CCW) license must complete a rigorous process, including extensive background checks, training, and examinations, to demonstrate their qualifications. Despite this, current law requires CCW licenses to be renewed every 2 years, placing an undue burden on license holders who must frequently navigate the bureaucratic renewal process, pay fees, and undergo repeated evaluations, even though they have already proven their eligibility.

This short license term also creates inefficiencies for local governments, which must dedicate significant resources to processing frequent renewals, conducting background checks, and maintaining updated records. In counties with high numbers of license holders, this leads to backlogs, administrative strain, and increased costs for taxpayers. A 2-year renewal cycle is inefficient and out of step with other professional licenses and permits in California, many of which have longer terms.

THE SOLUTION:

AB 1092 extends the CCW license term from 2 to 4 years, reducing the frequency of renewals while maintaining rigorous licensure standards. This change will streamline the process for license holders, reduce administrative workloads for local governments, and save taxpayer dollars by lowering the costs associated with license renewals and background checks.

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