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**Affiliated with:**  
**The National Rifle Association**  
**Civillian Marksmanship Program**

*House Bill 69: The NCRPA Board of Directors have analyzed HB 69, which, among other things, rewrites G.S. 14-269 to generally decriminalized the concealed carry of firearms. The bill is euphemistically referred to as the “Constitutional Carry Act,” but only affects statutory law. A separate bill, HB 145, attempts to amend North Carolina’s Constitution by removing references about the regulation of concealed weapons. That bill might more appropriately wear the moniker of “Constitutional Carry Act,” but is not so denominated. HB 69 does not do away with the current concealed handgun permitting system in North Carolina, which is still required for national concealed carry reciprocity. Rather, HB 69 establishes a two tier approach to lawful concealed carry in North Carolina - persons carrying with a permit and those carrying without a permit. HB 69 affects a broad array of interrelated statues and proposes new statutes. It is a major rewrite of North Carolina firearms law and is complex due to the number of statutes involved.*

*The main drawback of HB 69 is that it enhances, at least in one instance, an infraction offense to a Class 1 misdemeanor offense (which imposes a penalty of up to 150 days imprisonment). It appears to do this in a way that not only affects permit-less carriers, but also holders of concealed carry handgun permits. NCRPA fought hard to reduce the penalty to an infraction for concealed carry permit holders for mistakenly carrying onto posted property (including premises that serve or sell alcohol). It would appear that the new G.S. 14-415.36 proposed under HB 69 would increase that penalty for permit holders in the context of establishments where alcohol is sold or consumed. This would be a retreat from the legal protections now enjoyed by permit holders. Another problem with HB 69 is that penalties are not uniform for all violations as between permit-less carry and carry with a permit. Finally, concealed carry of long guns is not fully addressed in HB 69, though that bill’s rewrite of G.S. 14-269 would tend to imply that such concealed carry would be legalized in some fashion by the bill’s redefining of the term “weapon” to exclude firearms.*

Track HB69:

<http://www.ncleg.net/gascripts/BillLookUp/BillLookUp.pl?Session=2017&BillID=hb+69&submitButton=Go>