



# What **Federally Mandated Concealed Carry Reciprocity** would mean for **New Mexico**

## Lawmakers on Capitol Hill are debating a bill that would force each state to recognize the concealed carry laws of every other state.

Currently, states have the right to choose which states' concealed carry permits they recognize, which is important because the requirements to carry hidden, loaded guns in public vary drastically from state to state. If the concealed carry reciprocity bill passes, that will no longer be the case, and **New Mexico will be forced to allow unlicensed, unvetted people from out of state to carry concealed guns in public places.**

As of today, 12 states, including New Mexico's neighbor Arizona, do **not** require any permit or training to carry hidden, loaded guns in public. If this bill becomes federal law, almost any person from these states would be **automatically authorized** to carry concealed in New Mexico, regardless of whether that person meets New Mexico's standards for what it takes to carry a concealed gun in public, such as having passed a background check.

**Concealed carry reciprocity would significantly undermine New Mexico's laws.** Like many states, New Mexico has been very deliberate about which other states' concealed handgun licenses it recognizes. For example, New Mexico will only recognize

concealed handgun licenses or permits issued by other states only if the other state does the following:

- ✓ Has disqualification, suspension and revocation requirements for the license or permit;
- ✓ Requires an applicant to submit to a national criminal history record check;
- ✓ Requires an applicant to satisfactorily complete a firearms safety program;
- ✓ Issues a license or permit with an expiration date printed on it;
- ✓ Enables law enforcement officers to verify the license or permit status within three business days of a request.

Federally mandated concealed carry would undermine the careful work New Mexico policymakers have done to establish meaningful public safety standards. In fact, the New Mexico Department of Public Safety has found that 25 states, such as the State of Washington, do not meet these requirements.

If the federally mandated concealed carry bill passes, New Mexico would be forced to honor the weak or nonexistent concealed carry standards of other states, **making New Mexico less safe and putting law enforcement at risk.**

### REQUIREMENTS TO CARRY CONCEALED IN...

	NEW MEXICO	WASHINGTON
<b>Must be a resident of the state?</b>	✓ Only residents of New Mexico will be issued permits to carry a concealed, loaded gun in public.	✗ Non-Washington residents may apply to any municipality in the state for a concealed carry permit.
<b>Must complete safety training?</b>	✓ New Mexico requires classroom instruction, range instruction and a live-fire training course.	✗ Washington does NOT require training, instruction or evaluation for firearms competence.
<b>Must NOT have a violent criminal record?</b>	✓ An applicant must not have been convicted or plead guilty or no contest to a violent misdemeanor within the preceding 10 years.	✗ Will issue a license to an applicant who has been convicted of a misdemeanor violent crime, unless it was against a family or household member.
<b>Must NOT have a history of substance abuse?</b>	✓ An applicant cannot be addicted to alcohol or controlled substances, or convicted of a misdemeanor DUI offense in the past five years or misdemeanor possession of a controlled substance in the past 10 years.	✗ Will issue a license without regard for misdemeanor convictions related to alcohol or controlled substances.