RESPONSIBLE



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 federally mandated concealed carry bill passes, that will no longer be the case, and **Florida will be forced to allow unlicensed, unvetted people from out of state to carry concealed guns in public places.**

Florida currently recognizes concealed carry licenses issued by other states, but only when the license holder is a resident of the state that issued the license. This crucial public safety protection prevents people who don't qualify for licenses from their own states from carrying concealed firearms in Florida.

The problem is that ten states, including Florida's neighbor Georgia, issue licenses to non-residents even if they don't qualify for licenses from their own states. Consequently, people often take advantage of this loophole by seeking licenses from these states rather than their home states. If the federally mandated concealed carry bill passes, **Florida would be federally mandated to honor the weak or nonexistent concealed carry standards of other states.** This will make Florida less safe and put law enforcement at risk.

