



The 2017 legislative session has ended, and with its end many new laws will be taking effect soon. Below is a list of bills that have passed and what impact they will have on LTC holders.

HB1819

This bill creates a new section of the Texas Penal code § 46.05(a)(7). This section states that “a firearm silencer, unless the firearm silencer is classified as a curio or relic by the United States Department of Justice or the actor otherwise possesses, manufactures, transports, repairs, or sells the firearm silencer in compliance with federal law.” So, if the “Hearing Protection Act of 2017” becomes law; and silencers are deregulated under the NFA they will no longer be prohibited weapons under Texas law.

It also removes from the list of prohibited weapons any item that is “otherwise not subject to that registration requirement or unless the item is classified as a curio or relic by the United States Department of Justice” An example of this would be the Mossberg Shockwave. Since this firearm is not regulated or prohibited under the NFA it is no longer prohibited in Texas.

This bill will go into effect on September 1, 2017

SB16

This bill reduces LTC fees to the following amounts:

Initial / Renewal application - \$40

Indigent renewal application - \$5

Over 60 renewals - \$5

Instructor application - \$40

Peace Officer application - \$0

Duplicate or modified LTC - \$12.50

This bill will go into effect on September 1, 2017

SB263

This bill removes the minimum caliber requirement for the LTC shooting qualification. This will make it easier for people with disabilities or other physical issues to obtain an LTC.

This bill will go into effect on September 1, 2017

SB1566

This bill creates a new section of the Texas Education Code § 37.0815 that prohibits school districts and charter schools from enacting employment rules that prohibit employees with an LTC from having “handguns, firearms, or ammunition, that is not in plain view, in a private, locked motor vehicle in a school owned parking area.”

This new law ONLY applies to employees with an LTC. Non LTC employees are still subject to Texas Labor Code §52.062(a)(2)(B) &(C).

This bill will go into effect on September 1, 2017

HB3784

This bill allows for an online LTC class. The class must be given by an approved online course provider certified by the state. This bill does not remove the physical class, but adds the option to take the class online.

Students must still complete a minimum of one hour of range instruction, and the shooting test in person with a qualified LTC instructor.

This means students who take the online class will still have to schedule time to come to the range for range instruction and shooting testing.

This bill will go into effect on September 1, 2017. However, we do not yet know who will be offering online classes.

SB2065

Is specific to the places of religions worship and allows for volunteer security teams. Volunteer security teams do not have to be licensed security guards. But, must be unpaid volunteers and not wear a uniform/ badge that says security, or gives the impression of being a police officer, personal protection officer, or security officer.

This bill will go into effect on September 1, 2017

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