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HOUSE BILL #

57TH LEGISLATURE – STATE OF NEW MEXICO – FIRST SESSION, 2025

INTRODUCED BY

AN ACT

30-7-2.2. Unlawful possession of a ~~handgun~~ firearm by a person; exceptions; penalty.

A. Unlawful possession of a ~~handgun~~ firearm by a person consists of a person knowingly having a ~~handgun~~ firearm in the person's possession or knowingly transporting a ~~handgun~~, firearm except when the person is:

- (1) in attendance at a hunter's safety course or ~~handgun~~ firearm safety course or participating in a lawful shooting activity;
- (2) engaging in the use of a ~~handgun~~ firearm for target shooting at an established range authorized by the governing body of the jurisdiction in which the range is located or in an area where the discharge of a ~~handgun~~ firearm without legal justification is not prohibited by law;
- (3) engaging in an organized competition involving the use of a ~~handgun~~ firearm;
- (4) participating in or practicing for a performance by an organization that has been granted exemption from federal income tax by the United States commissioner of internal revenue as an organization described in Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended or renumbered;
- (5) engaging in legal hunting or trapping activities;
- (6) traveling, with an unloaded ~~handgun~~ firearm in the person's possession, to or from an activity described in Paragraph (1), (2), (3), (4) or (5) of this subsection; or
- (7) on real property under the control of the person's parent, grandparent or legal guardian and the person is being supervised by a parent, grandparent or legal guardian.

B. A person who commits unlawful possession of a ~~handgun~~ firearm by a person is guilty of a misdemeanor.

1 C. As used in this section:

2 (1) "person" means an individual who is less than nineteen years old; and

3 ~~(2) "handgun" means a loaded or unloaded pistol, revolver or firearm that will or is~~
4 ~~designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosion~~
5 ~~and the barrel length of which, not including a revolving, detachable or magazine breech,~~
6 ~~does not exceed twelve inches.~~

7 (2) "firearm" means any weapon that will or is designed to or may readily be converted to
8 expel a projectile by the action of an explosion or the frame or receiver of any such weapon,
9 as defined under Section 30-20A-2 NMSA 1978.

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