

House Study Bill 262 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
JUDICIARY BILL BY CHAIRPERSON
HOLT)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the minimum age for acquiring or carrying
2 weapons.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. Section 724.8, subsection 1, Code 2025, is amended
2 to read as follows:

3 1. Is less than eighteen years of age ~~for a professional~~
4 ~~permit or less than twenty-one years of age for a nonprofessional~~
5 ~~permit.~~

6 Sec. 2. Section 724.15, subsection 2, paragraph a, Code 2025,
7 is amended to read as follows:

8 a. Under ~~twenty-one~~ eighteen years of age ~~except for those~~
9 ~~persons included in section 724.22, subsection 4, who acquire a~~
10 ~~pistol or revolver when the person's duty so requires.~~

11 Sec. 3. Section 724.22, subsections 2, 5, and 8, Code 2025,
12 are amended to read as follows:

13 2. Except as provided in subsections 4 and 5, a person who
14 sells, loans, gives, or makes available a pistol or revolver
15 or ammunition for a pistol or revolver to a person below the
16 age of ~~twenty-one~~ eighteen commits a serious misdemeanor for a
17 first offense and a class "D" felony for second and subsequent
18 offenses.

19 5. a. A parent, ~~or~~ guardian, or spouse who is ~~twenty-one~~
20 eighteen years of age or older, of a person under the age of
21 ~~twenty-one~~ eighteen may allow the person, while under direct
22 supervision, to possess a pistol or revolver or the ammunition
23 therefor for any lawful purpose, or while the person receives
24 instruction in the proper use thereof from an instructor
25 ~~twenty-one~~ eighteen years of age or older, with the consent of
26 such parent, guardian, or spouse.

27 b. As used in this section, "direct supervision" means
28 supervision provided by the parent, guardian, spouse, or
29 instructor who is ~~twenty-one~~ eighteen years of age or older,
30 who maintains a physical presence near the supervised person
31 conducive to hands-on instruction, who maintains visual and
32 verbal contact at all times with the supervised person, and
33 who is not intoxicated as provided under the conditions set out
34 in section 321J.2, subsection 1, or under the influence of an
35 illegal drug.

1 8. A parent, guardian, or spouse, who is ~~twenty-one~~ eighteen
2 years of age or older, of a minor under the age of fourteen years
3 and who allows that minor to possess a pistol or revolver or
4 the ammunition pursuant hereto, shall be strictly liable to an
5 injured party for all damages resulting from the possession of
6 the pistol or revolver or ammunition therefor by that minor.

7 Sec. 4. Section 724.22, subsection 4, Code 2025, is amended
8 by striking the subsection.

9

EXPLANATION

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The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with

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the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

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Current law generally prohibits a person under the age of
13 21 from acquiring a permit to carry weapons, acquiring pistols
14 and revolvers, and carrying dangerous weapons. This bill lowers
15 the minimum age to 18 and makes conforming changes, including to
16 scope of liability provisions.