

## Report on Gun-Related Legislation Introduced in the 2019 Missouri Legislative Session

Attached are lists of the 11 House bills and 10 Senate bills that have been introduced as of 1/27/19. All House bills have had two readings. All Senate bills but one have received two readings and eight have been referred to committees: Senate bills 121, 40, 75, 39, 23, and 94 were referred to the Transportation, Infrastructure and Public Safety Committee. SB 41, 42 were referred to the Judiciary & Civil & Criminal Jurisprudence Committee.

If you are interested in tracking some of the bills, one guideline to use might be the list from the Institute for Legislative Action (NRA-ILA), the lobbying arm of the National Rifle Association. It includes a list of the bills they break down as pro-gun legislation and anti-gun legislation, and it might be safe to say that the anti-gun bills are ones that would protect the public and the pro-gun bills are those that would serve the best interests of the gun lobby.

The three pro-gun bills designated by NRA-ILA are: SB 5, which would modify and create new provisions relating to the initiatives and referendum process and would prevent the public from having the opportunity to vote for anti-gun legislation on the ballot; SB 39, that would remove the prohibition on carrying firearms for self-defense on public transit and allow the transport of unloaded or non-functioning firearms on buses, which is currently prohibited by law; and HB 82, which would ensure that gun owners may store firearms in their private vehicles when parked in any parking lot.

The proposed legislation on the list considered to be anti-gun is extensive and includes bills such as:

SB 23, SB 42 and HB 40 are all so-called Red Flag bills and have a provision that allows a family or household member of someone who is believed to pose a danger of causing injury to him/herself or another person by use of a weapon, to file a petition with the court for a firearm restraining order. HB 56 would require firearms being transported in vehicles to be unloaded and stored in a locked case, trunk or other secure container.

Other bills that bear watching are:

SB 121, which has been dubbed the “guns everywhere” bill and has been introduced the last two years. It modifies provisions relating to the concealed carry of firearms prohibition in public places.

And, while guns are not specifically mentioned in the language of these bills, with all the recent publicity about increased rate of suicides, they are both worth watching: SB 164 requires marital and family therapists to complete two hours of suicide training; and HB 224 states that a person may be charged if they promoted a suicide attempt or is convicted of abusing someone and contributed to suicide or suicide attempt.

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