

SENATE BILL No. 176

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 35-47-11.1-4.

Synopsis: Regulation of firearms and shooting ranges. Prohibits a county, city, or town from: (1) adopting or enforcing a planning, zoning, or land use ordinance or regulation; or (2) imposing a condition for a permit or approval; relating to the establishment, use, or maintenance of a shooting range that is more stringent than state law.

Effective: July 1, 2026.

Tomes

January 5, 2026, read first time and referred to Committee on Corrections and Criminal Law.



Second Regular Session of the 124th General Assembly (2026)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

SENATE BILL No. 176

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning criminal law and procedure.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 35-47-11.1-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.175-2022,
2 SECTION 16, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. This chapter may not be construed to prevent
4 any of the following:
- 5 (1) A law enforcement agency of a political subdivision from
6 enacting and enforcing regulations pertaining to firearms,
7 ammunition, or firearm accessories issued to or used by law
8 enforcement officers in the course of their official duties.
 - 9 (2) Subject to IC 34-28-7-2, an employer from regulating or
10 prohibiting the employees of the employer from carrying firearms
11 and ammunition in the course of the employee's official duties.
 - 12 (3) A court or administrative law judge from hearing and
13 resolving any case or controversy or issuing any opinion or order
14 on a matter within the jurisdiction of the court or judge.
 - 15 (4) The enactment or enforcement of generally applicable zoning
16 or business ordinances that apply to firearms businesses to the
17 same degree as other similar businesses. However, a provision of



an ordinance that is designed or enforced to effectively restrict or prohibit the sale, purchase, transfer, manufacture, or display of firearms, ammunition, or firearm accessories that is otherwise lawful under the laws of this state is void. A unit (as defined in IC 36-1-2-23) may not use the unit's planning and zoning powers under IC 36-7-4 to prohibit the sale of firearms within a prescribed distance of any other type of commercial property or of school property or other educational property.

(5) Subject to IC 35-47-16-1, the enactment or enforcement of a provision prohibiting or restricting the possession of a firearm in any building that contains the courtroom of a circuit, superior, city, town, or small claims court. However, if a portion of the building is occupied by a residential tenant or private business, any provision restricting or prohibiting the possession of a firearm does not apply to the portion of the building that is occupied by the residential tenant or private business, or to common areas of the building used by a residential tenant or private business.

(6) The enactment or enforcement of a provision prohibiting or restricting the intentional display of a firearm at a public meeting.

(7) The enactment or enforcement of a provision prohibiting or restricting the possession of a firearm in a public hospital corporation that contains a secure correctional health unit that is staffed by a law enforcement officer twenty-four (24) hours a day.

(8) The imposition of any restriction or condition placed on a person participating in:

(A) a community corrections program (IC 11-12-1);

(B) a forensic diversion program (IC 11-12-3.7); or

(C) a pretrial diversion program (IC 33-39-1).

(9) The enforcement or prosecution of the offense of criminal recklessness (IC 35-42-2-2) involving the use of a firearm.

(10) For an event occurring on property leased from a political subdivision or municipal corporation by the promoter or organizer of the event:

(A) the establishment, by the promoter or organizer, at the promoter's or organizer's own discretion, of rules of conduct or admission upon which attendance at or participation in the event is conditioned; or

(B) the implementation or enforcement of the rules of conduct or admission described in clause (A) by a political subdivision or municipal corporation in connection with the event.

(11) The enactment or enforcement of a provision prohibiting or restricting the possession of a firearm in a hospital established



and operated under IC 16-22-2 or IC 16-23.

(12) A unit from using the unit's planning and zoning powers under IC 36-7-4 to prohibit the sale of firearms within two hundred (200) feet of a school by a person having a business that did not sell firearms within two hundred (200) feet of a school before April 1, 1994.

(13) A unit from adopting, applying, or enforcing a planning, zoning, or land use ordinance or regulation established in accordance with IC 36-7-4 that does not:

(A) impose more stringent regulations on the establishment, use, or maintenance of a shooting range than is allowed under IC 14-22-31.5, this chapter, or another state law; or

(B) require a person seeking a permit or approval related to:

(i) an improvement to real property for the purpose of establishing, using, and maintaining a new shooting range; or

(ii) a substantial change to an existing shooting range; to comply with any conditions relating to the establishment, use, or maintenance of the shooting range that are more stringent than are allowed under IC 14-22-31.5, this chapter, or another state law.

~~(13)~~ **(14)** Subject to IC 35-47-16-1, a unit (as defined in IC 36-1-2-23) from enacting or enforcing a provision prohibiting or restricting the possession of a firearm in a building owned or administered by the unit if:

(A) metal detection devices are located at each public entrance to the building;

(B) each public entrance to the building is staffed by at least one (1) law enforcement officer:

(i) who has been adequately trained to conduct inspections of persons entering the building by use of metal detection devices and proper physical pat down searches; and

(ii) when the building is open to the public; and

(C) each:

(i) individual who enters the building through the public entrance when the building is open to the public; and

(ii) bag, package, and other container carried by the individual;

is inspected by a law enforcement officer described in clause (B).



1 However, except as provided in subdivision (5) concerning a
2 building that contains a courtroom, a unit may not prohibit or
3 restrict the possession of a handgun under this subdivision in a
4 building owned or administered by the unit if the person who
5 possesses the handgun is not otherwise prohibited from carrying
6 or possessing a handgun.

