

House Engrossed

firearms safety; training; schools

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Fifty-fifth Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2022

# HOUSE BILL 2448

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 15, CHAPTER 7, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY  
ADDING SECTION 15-714.02; RELATING TO SCHOOL INSTRUCTION.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Title 15, chapter 7, article 1, Arizona Revised  
3 Statutes, is amended by adding section 15-714.02, to read:

4 15-714.02. Firearms safety; training; requirements; parental  
5 opt-out

6 A. FROM AND AFTER JUNE 30, 2023, IN ADDITION TO THE VOLUNTARY  
7 TRAINING PRESCRIBED IN SECTIONS 15-713 AND 15-714 AND THE ARIZONA GUN  
8 SAFETY PROGRAM COURSE PRESCRIBED IN SECTION 15-714.01, SCHOOL DISTRICTS  
9 AND CHARTER SCHOOLS SHALL PROVIDE PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS IN GRADES SIX  
10 THROUGH TWELVE WITH ONE OR MORE TRAINING SESSIONS IN FIREARMS SAFETY IN AN  
11 AGE-APPROPRIATE MANNER. ANY TRAINING SESSION OR SESSIONS PROVIDED  
12 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL BE BASED ON A FIREARMS ACCIDENT PREVENTION  
13 PROGRAM THAT MEETS ALL OF THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

14 1. HAS BEEN IN OPERATION FOR OVER THIRTY YEARS.

15 2. SEEKS TO HELP PARENTS, LAW ENFORCEMENT, COMMUNITY GROUPS AND  
16 EDUCATORS NAVIGATE FIREARMS SAFETY.

17 3. WAS DEVELOPED BY A TASK FORCE MADE UP OF EDUCATORS, SCHOOL  
18 ADMINISTRATORS, CURRICULUM SPECIALISTS, URBAN HOUSING SAFETY OFFICIALS,  
19 CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS, LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS AND FIREARMS SAFETY  
20 EXPERTS FROM THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

21 4. TEACHES CHILDREN FOUR SIMPLE, EASY TO REMEMBER STEPS SO THEY  
22 KNOW WHAT TO DO IF THEY EVER COME ACROSS A FIREARM.

23 B. TRAINING PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE  
24 PROVIDED BY A PERSON WHO MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION F  
25 OF THIS SECTION. THIS SUBSECTION DOES NOT REQUIRE A TEACHER OR  
26 ADMINISTRATOR WHO FACILITATES OR OVERSEES THE TRAINING TO BE A CERTIFIED  
27 FIREARMS SAFETY INSTRUCTOR.

28 C. THE TRAINING PROVIDED UNDER SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION MAY NOT  
29 INCLUDE EITHER OF THE FOLLOWING:

30 1. INSTRUCTION ON FIREARMS OPERATION OR QUALIFICATION.

31 2. HUNTING EDUCATION.

32 D. A STUDENT SHALL BE EXCUSED FROM THE TRAINING PROVIDED PURSUANT  
33 TO SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION IF EITHER:

34 1. THE STUDENT'S PARENT REQUESTS THAT THE STUDENT BE EXCUSED FROM  
35 THE TRAINING.

36 2. THE STUDENT IS A CHILD WITH A DISABILITY AS DEFINED IN SECTION  
37 15-731 AND THE STUDENT'S INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM TEAM MAKES A  
38 DETERMINATION TO EXCUSE THE STUDENT FROM THE TRAINING.

39 E. A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL MAY ACCEPT FROM ANY PERSON,  
40 PUBLIC ENTITY OR OTHER LEGAL ENTITY IN-KIND DONATIONS OF MATERIALS,  
41 EQUIPMENT OR SERVICES THAT MAY BE USED TO PROVIDE TRAINING PURSUANT TO  
42 THIS SECTION.

43 F. A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL MAY USE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING  
44 PERSONS TO PROVIDE TRAINING PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION:

45 1. CURRENT INSTRUCTORS CERTIFIED BY A RECOGNIZED NATIONAL OR STATE  
46 ASSOCIATION, INCLUDING ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

- 1 (a) A NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION.
- 2 (b) A RIFLE AND PISTOL ASSOCIATION IN THIS STATE.
- 3 (c) A CIVILIAN MARKSMANSHIP PROGRAM.
- 4 (d) ANY PRIVATE INSTITUTION, ACADEMY OR ORGANIZATION THAT PROVIDES
- 5 FIREARMS TRAINING AS DESCRIBED IN THIS SECTION.
- 6 2. ACTIVE OR RETIRED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS.
- 7 3. TEACHERS OR FACULTY WHO ARE CERTIFIED PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 1 OF
- 8 THIS SUBSECTION.

9 Sec. 2. Legislative intent

10 Given the increasing concern over the safety of schools, the  
11 Legislature intends that children in this state receive instruction about  
12 firearms from a qualified individual with a focus on safety rather than  
13 from popular culture and various forms of media. This instruction should  
14 not cover topics such as firearms operation, qualification or hunting but  
15 should ensure that students know how to identify the safe and unsafe  
16 handling of firearms and the appropriate response as taught by firearms  
17 safety experts in this state who are willing to volunteer their time.