

REFERENCE TITLE: firearms safety; training; schools

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

HB 2448

Introduced by
Representatives Nguyen: Blackman, Bolick, Fillmore, Hoffman, Senator Boyer

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 IN THE USE OF BOWS AND FIREARMS PRESCRIBED IN SECTIONS 15-713 AND
8 15-714 AND THE ARIZONA GUN SAFETY PROGRAM COURSE PRESCRIBED IN SECTION
9 15-714.01, SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND CHARTER SCHOOLS SHALL PROVIDE PUBLIC
10 SCHOOL STUDENTS IN GRADES SIX THROUGH TWELVE WITH ONE OR MORE TRAINING
11 SESSIONS IN FIREARMS SAFETY IN AN AGE-APPROPRIATE MANNER.

12 B. TRAINING PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE
13 PROVIDED BY A PERSON WHO MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION G
14 OF THIS SECTION. THIS SUBSECTION DOES NOT REQUIRE A TEACHER OR
15 ADMINISTRATOR WHO FACILITATES OR OVERSEES THE TRAINING TO BE A CERTIFIED
16 FIREARMS SAFETY INSTRUCTOR.

17 C. THE TRAINING PROVIDED UNDER SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION MUST
18 INCLUDE, AT A MINIMUM, INSTRUCTION ON ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

19 1. THE SAFE HANDLING OF ALL FIREARMS, INCLUDING PELLET GUNS AND AIR
20 GUNS.

21 2. THE IDENTIFICATION OF DANGER SIGNS OR CARELESS HANDLING OF
22 FIREARMS AND THE APPROPRIATE RESPONSE.

23 3. THE PROPER STORAGE OF FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION.

24 D. THE TRAINING PROVIDED UNDER SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION MAY NOT
25 INCLUDE EITHER OF THE FOLLOWING:

26 1. INSTRUCTION ON FIREARMS OPERATION OR QUALIFICATION.

27 2. HUNTING EDUCATION.

28 E. A STUDENT SHALL BE EXCUSED FROM THE TRAINING PROVIDED PURSUANT
29 TO SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION IF EITHER:

30 1. THE STUDENT'S PARENT REQUESTS THAT THE STUDENT BE EXCUSED FROM
31 THE TRAINING.

32 2. THE STUDENT IS A CHILD WITH A DISABILITY AS DEFINED IN SECTION
33 15-731 AND THE STUDENT'S INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM TEAM MAKES A
34 DETERMINATION TO EXCUSE THE STUDENT FROM THE TRAINING.

35 F. A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL MAY ACCEPT FROM ANY PERSON,
36 PUBLIC ENTITY OR OTHER LEGAL ENTITY IN-KIND DONATIONS OF MATERIALS,
37 EQUIPMENT OR SERVICES THAT MAY BE USED TO PROVIDE TRAINING PURSUANT TO
38 THIS SECTION.

39 G. A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL MAY USE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING
40 PERSONS TO PROVIDE TRAINING PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION:

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

43 (a) A NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

44 (b) A RIFLE AND PISTOL ASSOCIATION IN THIS STATE.

45 (c) A CIVILIAN MARKSMANSHIP PROGRAM.

1 (d) ANY PRIVATE INSTITUTION, ACADEMY OR ORGANIZATION THAT PROVIDES
2 FIREARMS TRAINING AS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION C OF THIS SECTION.

3 2. ACTIVE OR RETIRED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS.

4 3. TEACHERS OR FACULTY WHO ARE CERTIFIED PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 1 OF
5 THIS SUBSECTION.

6 Sec. 2. Legislative intent

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