

REFERENCE TITLE: firearms safety; training; schools

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-sixth Legislature
First Regular Session
2023

HB 2332

Introduced by
Representative Bliss

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; donations; instructors

6 A. FROM AND AFTER JUNE 30, 2024, IN ADDITION TO THE VOLUNTARY
7 TRAINING PRESCRIBED IN SECTIONS 15-713 AND 15-714 AND THE ELECTIVE COURSE
8 PRESCRIBED IN SECTION 15-714.01, SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND CHARTER SCHOOLS
9 SHALL PROVIDE STUDENTS IN GRADES SIX THROUGH TWELVE WITH ONE OR MORE
10 TRAINING SESSIONS IN FIREARMS SAFETY IN AN AGE-APPROPRIATE MANNER. ANY
11 TRAINING SESSION OR SESSIONS PROVIDED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL BE
12 BASED ON A FIREARMS ACCIDENT PREVENTION PROGRAM THAT MEETS ALL OF THE
13 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 A NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

21 4. TEACHES SIMPLE, EASY-TO-REMEMBER STEPS SO INDIVIDUALS WHO
22 RECEIVE THE TRAINING 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 AN INDIVIDUAL WHO MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED IN
25 SUBSECTION G OF THIS SECTION. THIS SUBSECTION DOES NOT REQUIRE A TEACHER
26 OR ADMINISTRATOR WHO FACILITATES OR OVERSEES THE TRAINING TO BE A
27 CERTIFIED FIREARMS SAFETY INSTRUCTOR.

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

30 1. INSTRUCTION ON FIREARMS OPERATION OR QUALIFICATION.

31 2. HUNTING EDUCATION.

32 D. A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL SHALL NOTIFY THE PARENT OF
33 ANY STUDENT WHO WILL RECEIVE TRAINING PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION AT LEAST
34 TWO WEEKS BEFORE THE TRAINING IS PROVIDED AND SHALL ALLOW PARENTS TO OPT
35 THE STUDENT OUT OF THE TRAINING PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION E OF THIS SECTION.

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

38 1. THE STUDENT'S PARENT REQUESTS THAT THE STUDENT BE EXCUSED FROM
39 THE TRAINING.

40 2. THE STUDENT IS A CHILD WITH A DISABILITY AS DEFINED IN SECTION
41 15-731 AND THE STUDENT'S INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM TEAM MAKES A
42 DETERMINATION TO EXCUSE THE STUDENT FROM THE TRAINING.

43 F. A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL MAY ACCEPT FROM ANY PERSON
44 IN-KIND DONATIONS OF MATERIALS, EQUIPMENT OR SERVICES THAT MAY BE USED TO
45 PROVIDE THE TRAINING PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION, EXCEPT THAT

1 A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL MAY NOT ACCEPT A WORKING OR LIVE
2 FIREARM. A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL MAY NOT USE WORKING OR LIVE
3 FIREARMS FOR THE TRAINING PROVIDED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION A OF THIS
4 SECTION.

5 G. A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL MAY USE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING
6 INDIVIDUALS TO PROVIDE TRAINING PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION:

7 1. A CURRENT INSTRUCTOR WHO IS CERTIFIED BY A RECOGNIZED NATIONAL
8 OR STATE ASSOCIATION, INCLUDING ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

9 (a) A NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

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

11 (c) A CIVILIAN MARKSMANSHIP PROGRAM.

12 (d) ANY PRIVATE INSTITUTION, ACADEMY OR ORGANIZATION THAT PROVIDES
13 FIREARMS TRAINING AS DESCRIBED IN THIS SECTION.

14 2. AN ACTIVE OR RETIRED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER.

15 3. A TEACHER OR FACULTY MEMBER WHO IS CERTIFIED AS DESCRIBED IN
16 PARAGRAPH 1 OF THIS SUBSECTION.

17 Sec. 2. Legislative intent

18 Given the increasing concern over the safety of schools, the
19 legislature intends that children in this state receive instruction about
20 firearms from qualified individuals with a focus on safety rather than
21 from popular culture and various forms of media. This instruction should
22 not cover topics such as firearms operation, qualification or hunting but
23 should ensure that students know how to identify the safe and unsafe
24 handling of firearms and the appropriate response as taught by firearms
25 safety experts in this state who are willing to volunteer their time.