

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

An Act To Strengthen the Authority of Concealed Weapons Permits and Define the Term "Crossbow" in Maine Law

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 15 MRSA §393, sub-§2, as amended by PL 2005, c. 419, §9 and affected by §12, is further amended to read:

2. Application after 5 years. A person subject to the provisions of subsection 1 may, after the expiration of 5 years from the date that the person is finally discharged from the sentences imposed as a result of the conviction or adjudication, apply to the Commissioner of Public Safety for a permit to carry a firearm or crossbow. That person may not be issued a permit to carry a concealed firearm pursuant to Title 25, chapter 252. A permit issued pursuant to this subsection is valid for 4 years from the date of issue unless sooner revoked for cause by the issuing authority.

Sec. 2. 15 MRSA §393, sub-§7, ¶A-1 is enacted to read:

A-1. "Crossbow" means a mechanical device equipped with a working safety that propels an arrow or bolt, consists of, but is not limited to, strings, cables and prods, is transversely mounted on either a shoulder or handheld stock that is at least 25 inches in length and is mechanically held at full or partial draw and released by a trigger or similar mechanism that is incorporated into the stock or by hand.

Sec. 3. 25 MRSA §2003, sub-§1, ¶B, as repealed and replaced by PL 2003, c. 341, §3, is amended to read:

B. Is not disqualified to possess a firearm pursuant to Title 15, section 393 ~~and~~, is not disqualified as a permit holder under that same section and is not disqualified to possess a firearm under federal law.

SUMMARY

This bill:

1. Provides that a person may not be issued a concealed weapons permit if the person is disqualified from having a firearm under state or federal law;
2. Places an expiration term on permits issued pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 15, section 393, subsection 2; and
3. Provides a definition for "crossbow," a term currently not defined in Maine law, for law enforcement purposes.