

A BILL

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To declare the existence of an emergency with respect to the need to amend the Firearms Control Regulations Act of 1975 to expand the membership of the Concealed Pistol Licensing Review Board to enable the Board to more efficiently hear appeals related to licenses to carry a concealed pistol.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the “Concealed Pistol Licensing Review Board Membership Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2020”.

Sec. 2. (a) The License to Carry a Pistol Amendment Act of 2014, effective June 16, 2015 (D.C. Law 20-279), amended the Firearms Control Regulations Act of 1975, effective September 24, 1976 (D.C. Law 1-85), to establish the Concealed Pistol Licensing Review Board (“Board”).

(b) The Board is responsible for hearing appeals from a denial of an application or renewal application for a license to carry a concealed pistol in the District, a summary suspension or limitation of a license to carry a concealed pistol, and a limitation or revocation of a license to carry a concealed pistol.

(c) The Board comprises 7 members: the Attorney General, the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, a mental health professional, a law enforcement officer, and three public members.

34 (d) The Board is currently experiencing an increase in the number of appeals it must hear,
35 and its limited membership is challenged in timely and thoroughly reviewing materials.

36 (e) This emergency legislation would move quickly to expand the Board's membership
37 from 7 to 11 members, with 4 new public District resident members appointed by the Mayor: 2
38 members with professional experience in the field of gun violence prevention, 1 member with
39 professional experience in the field of victim services or advocacy, and 1 member who is an
40 attorney in good standing with the District of Columbia Bar with professional experience in
41 criminal law.

42 (f) These new members will help the Board meet its constitutional obligations during these
43 challenging pandemic conditions.

44 Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia determines that the circumstances
45 enumerated in section 2 constitute emergency circumstances making it necessary that the
46 Concealed Pistol Licensing Review Board Membership Emergency Amendment Act of 2020 be
47 adopted after a single reading.

48 Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.