



George Latimer
County Executive

May 10, 2023

Westchester County Board of Legislators
800 Michaelian Office Building
White Plains, New York 10601

Dear Members of the Board of Legislators:

Transmitted herewith is a Home Rule Request for S4879/A5092: AN ACT to amend the penal law in relation to fees charged for a license to carry or possess a pistol or revolver in the County of Westchester.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "George Latimer".

George Latimer
County Executive

Attachments

STATE OF NEW YORK

5092

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

March 2, 2023

Introduced by M. of A. OTIS -- read once and referred to the Committee on Codes

AN ACT to amend the penal law, in relation to fees charged for a license to carry or possess a pistol or revolver in the county of Westchester

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Subdivision 14 of section 400.00 of the penal law, as
2 amended by chapter 212 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as
3 follows:
4 14. Fees. In the city of New York and the [~~county~~] counties of Nassau
5 and Westchester, the annual license fee shall be twenty-five dollars for
6 gunsmiths and fifty dollars for dealers in firearms. In such city, the
7 city council and in the [~~county~~] counties of Nassau and Westchester the
8 [~~Board of Supervisors~~] legislative body of such county shall fix the fee
9 to be charged for a license to carry or possess a pistol or revolver or
10 to purchase or take possession of a semiautomatic rifle and provide for
11 the disposition of such fees. Elsewhere in the state, the licensing
12 officer shall collect and pay into the county treasury the following
13 fees: for each license to carry or possess a pistol or revolver or to
14 purchase or take possession of a semiautomatic rifle, not less than
15 three dollars nor more than ten dollars as may be determined by the
16 legislative body of the county; for each amendment thereto, three
17 dollars, and five dollars in the county of Suffolk; and for each license
18 issued to a gunsmith or dealer in firearms, ten dollars. The fee for a
19 duplicate license shall be five dollars. The fee for processing a
20 license transfer between counties shall be five dollars. The fee for
21 processing a license or renewal thereof for a qualified retired police
22 officer as defined under subdivision thirty-four of section 1.20 of the
23 criminal procedure law, or a qualified retired sheriff, undersheriff, or
24 deputy sheriff of the city of New York as defined under subdivision two
25 of section 2.10 of the criminal procedure law, or a qualified retired

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [~~-~~] is old law to be omitted.

LBD04716-01-3

1 bridge and tunnel officer, sergeant or lieutenant of the triborough
2 bridge and tunnel authority as defined under subdivision twenty of
3 section 2.10 of the criminal procedure law, or a qualified retired
4 uniformed court officer in the unified court system, or a qualified
5 retired court clerk in the unified court system in the first and second
6 judicial departments, as defined in paragraphs a and b of subdivision
7 twenty-one of section 2.10 of the criminal procedure law or a retired
8 correction officer as defined in subdivision twenty-five of section 2.10
9 of the criminal procedure law shall be waived in all counties throughout
10 the state.

11 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATE OF NEW YORK

4879

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 16, 2023

Introduced by Sen. MAYER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Codes

AN ACT to amend the penal law, in relation to fees charged for a license to carry or possess a pistol or revolver in the county of Westchester

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

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A05092 Memo:

**NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY
MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF LEGISLATION
submitted in accordance with Assembly Rule III, Sec 1(f)**

BILL NUMBER: A5092

SPONSOR: Otis

TITLE OF BILL:

An act to amend the penal law, in relation to fees charged for a license to carry or possess a pistol or revolver in the county of Westchester.

PURPOSE OR GENERAL IDEA OF BILL:

To allow the Board of Legislators of Westchester County to fix the fee to be charged for a license to carry or possess a pistol or revolver and provide for the disposition of such fees.

SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS:

Section 1 amends subdivision 14 of section 400.00 of the penal law, as amended by chapter 212 of the laws of 2022, to allow the Board of Legislators of Westchester County to fix the fee to be charged for a license to carry or possess a pistol or revolver and provide for the disposition of such fees.

Section 2 establishes that this act shall take effect immediately.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ORIGINAL AND AMENDED VERSION (IF APPLICABLE) :

n/a

JUSTIFICATION:

The fees charged by Westchester County for new pistol licenses and amendments are currently capped by New York State Penal Law. These fees have not increased in decades and are far below the cost incurred by the county during this process. Pistol license applications are currently capped at ten dollars, while the cost to the county is significantly higher and continues to go up. Although Westchester is obligated to abide by the New York State cap, comparable counties, such as Nassau County, charge fees in line with the cost of providing the service. This legislation would allow Westchester County to determine and fix pistol license fees that are commensurate with the actual cost of providing the service.

PRIOR LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

2021-2022: S6659/A7939, passed Senate; referred to Rules in Assembly

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS FOR STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

None to the state.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

This act shall take effect immediately.