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House Bill 5026 (Substitute S-1 as reported)
Sponsor: Representative Steve Vear
House Committee: Conservation and Outdoor Recreation
Senate Committee: Hunting, Fishing and Forestry

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Michigan Penal Code to revise the conditions under which a person may transport an antique firearm or a pistol in a vehicle without a license to carry a concealed weapon. The bill also would delete provisions that allow these weapons to be transported only to or from certain places.

The Code generally prohibits a person from transporting a pistol in a vehicle unless the person has a license to carry a concealed weapon. This prohibition does not apply under certain circumstances, including those described below.

Currently, a person may carry an antique firearm completely unloaded in a wrapper or container in the trunk of a vehicle while en route to or from a hunting or target shooting area or function involving the exhibition, demonstration, or sale of antique firearms. The bill, instead, would allow a person to carry an antique firearm that was completely unloaded in a closed case or container designed for the storage of firearms in the trunk of a vehicle.

The Code also allows a person to carry a pistol unloaded in a wrapper or container in the trunk of his or her vehicle, while in possession of a valid State hunting license or proof of valid membership in an organization having pistol shooting range facilities, while en route to or from a hunting or target shooting area. The bill, instead, would allow a person to carry a pistol that was inspected under Section 9 of the handgun licensure Act (which requires a pistol safety inspection), for a lawful purpose, and unloaded in a wrapper or container designed for the storage of firearms in the trunk of a vehicle.

The Code also allows a person to carry a pistol unloaded in the passenger compartment of a vehicle that does not have a trunk, if the person is otherwise complying with the preceding requirements and the wrapper or container is not readily accessible to the occupants of the vehicle. The bill, instead, would allow a person to carry an unloaded pistol that was inspected under Section 9 of the handgun licensure Act, for a lawful purpose, in the passenger compartment of a vehicle without a trunk, if the person complied with the Code and the closed case or container designed for the storage of firearms were not readily accessible to vehicle occupants.

MCL 750.231a

Legislative Analyst: N. Nagata

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have no fiscal impact on State or local government.

Date Completed: 11-7-01

Fiscal Analyst: B. Wicksall