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February 22, 2023

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**HOUSE REPUBLICANS LEAD THE WAY TO PASS NEW CONSTITUTIONAL CARRY LAW**  
CONSTITUTIONAL CARRY/SECOND AMENDMENT PRESERVATION ACT  
WILL STRENGTHEN GUN LAWS AND PENALTIES

(Columbia, S.C.) - Today, the SC House of Representatives passed a bill that will ensure South Carolinians who can lawfully own a firearm have the right to carry it openly or concealed, except with limited restrictions. The bill also increases penalties for felons in illegal possession of a firearm and gives law enforcement additional tools to do their jobs and protect our communities. The vote was 90-30, largely along party lines.

“This bill restores a fundamental and inalienable constitutional right and gives SC citizens more options to protect themselves and their families, all while keeping firearms out of the hands of criminals,” said House Majority Leader Davey Hiott (R-Pickens). “Passage of this bill further demonstrates SC House Republican’s support of responsible, law-abiding gun owners, and that we will fight to ensure their Second Amendment rights are protected.”

Rep. Bobby Cox (R-Greenville), sponsor of the bill, said “law abiding citizens should not need a permission slip from the government to exercise their Second Amendment right. This bill restores their constitutional freedom to protect themselves and penalizes those criminals who illegally own firearms.”

[H.3594](#), the Constitutional Carry/Second Amendment Preservation Act of 2023, preserves current federal background check requirements to purchase a firearm, retains the concealed weapons permit process to allow for reciprocity carry in other states, and does not change who can legally possess a firearm or where it can be carried.

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