

HOUSE BILL No. 1299

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 35-31.5-2; IC 35-47-4.

Synopsis: Surrender of firearms for domestic violence crimes. Provides that a person who: (1) has been convicted of a crime of domestic violence; and (2) knowingly or intentionally possesses a firearm; commits a Class A misdemeanor. Specifies defenses. Requires a court to issue an order, upon entry of a judgment of conviction for domestic battery or a crime of domestic violence, that: (1) prohibits ownership or possession of a firearm; (2) requires the defendant to surrender: (A) any firearm owned or possessed by the defendant; and (B) any license or permit to carry a handgun (license) owned or possessed by the defendant; and (3) requires confiscation, within 72 hours, of any firearm or license owned or possessed by the defendant. Provides that a domestic batterer who knowingly or intentionally fails to surrender a certain firearm or license commits a Class A misdemeanor, enhanced to a Level 6 felony in specific instances. Provides defenses. Specifies how a confiscated firearm or license shall be returned or disposed of if a person's right to possess a firearm is restored.

Effective: July 1, 2026.

Smith V

January 6, 2026, read first time and referred to Committee on Courts and Criminal Code.



Introduced

Second Regular Session of the 124th General Assembly (2026)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1299

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning criminal law and procedure.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 35-31.5-2-78, AS AMENDED BY P.L.175-2022,
2 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 78. "Crime of domestic violence", for purposes of
4 IC 5-2-6.1, IC 35-38-9, IC 35-47-2-1.5, and ~~IC 35-47-4-7~~, **IC 35-47-4**,
5 means an offense or the attempt to commit an offense that:

6 (1) has as an element:
7 (A) use of physical force; or
8 (B) threatened use of a deadly weapon; and
9 (2) is committed against a family or household member, as
10 defined in section 128 of this chapter.

11 SECTION 2. IC 35-31.5-2-103.3 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
12 CODE AS A **NEW SECTION** TO READ AS FOLLOWS
13 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 103.3. "Domestic batterer"**, for
14 **purposes of IC 35-47-4-6.3**, has the meaning set forth in
15 **IC 35-47-4-6.3(a)(2)**.

16 SECTION 3. IC 35-31.5-2-183, AS AMENDED BY P.L.127-2025,
17 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE



1 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 183. (a) "Law enforcement agency," for purposes
 2 of receiving information concerning a violation of IC 35-42-3.5-1
 3 through IC 35-42-3.5-1.4 (human trafficking), means:

4 (1) an agency or department of:
 5 (A) the state; or
 6 (B) a political subdivision of the state;
 7 whose principal function is the apprehension of criminal
 8 offenders; and
 9 (2) the attorney general.
 10 (b) "Law enforcement agency", for purposes of IC 35-33-4.5,
 11 **IC 35-47-4**, and IC 35-47-15, has the meaning set forth in
 12 IC 35-47-15-2.

13 SECTION 4. IC 35-31.5-2-187.2 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 14 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 15 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 187.2. "License", for purposes of**
 16 **IC 35-47-4-6.3 and IC 35-47-4-6.4, has the meaning set forth in**
 17 **IC 35-47-4-6.3(a)(3).**

18 SECTION 5. IC 35-31.5-2-275.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 19 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 20 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 275.5. "Residence", for purposes**
 21 **of IC 35-47-4-6.3, has the meaning set forth in IC 35-47-4-6.3(a)(4).**

22 SECTION 6. IC 35-31.5-2-319.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 23 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 24 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 319.5. "Surrender", for purposes**
 25 **of IC 35-47-4-6.3 and IC 35-47-4-6.4, has the meaning set forth in**
 26 **IC 35-47-4-6.3(a)(5).**

27 SECTION 7. IC 35-47-4-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.118-2007,
 28 SECTION 36, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 29 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) A person who has been convicted of:

30 (1) domestic battery under IC 35-42-2-1.3; or
 31 (2) a crime of domestic violence (as defined in
 32 **IC 35-31.5-2-78);**

33 and who knowingly or intentionally possesses a firearm commits
 34 unlawful possession of a firearm by a domestic batterer, a Class A
 35 misdemeanor.

36 (b) It is a defense to a prosecution under this section that:

37 (1) the person's right to possess a firearm has been restored under
 38 **IC 35-47-4-7. section 7 of this chapter; or**
 39 (2) the person, at the time of the commission of the offense,
 40 was:

41 (A) subject to a written court order under section 6.4(a) of
 42 this chapter; and



(B) awaiting the confiscation of the firearm by an appropriate law enforcement agency or law enforcement officer as described in section 6.4(b) of this chapter.

SECTION 8. IC 35-47-4-6.3 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 6.3. (a) The following definitions apply throughout this section:**

(1) "Crime of domestic violence" has the meaning set forth in IC 35-31.5-2-78.

(2) "Domestic batterer" means a person:

(A) who has been convicted of domestic battery (IC 35-42-2-1.3) or a crime of domestic violence; and

(B) whose right to possess a firearm has not been restored under section 7 of this chapter.

(3) "License" means any license or permit to carry

andgun.

(1) "Residence" means one (1) or more of the following:

(A) The location where a person spends most of the person's time, including a residence owned or leased by

another person if the person:

- (i) does not own or lease a residence; or
- (ii) spends more time at the residence owned or leased by the other person than at the residence owned or leased by the

(B) A particular location where a person spends more than three (3) nights in a thirty (30) day period.

three (3) nights in a thirty (30) day period.

(5) "Surrender" means to make available for confiscation by a law enforcement agency or law enforcement officer having jurisdiction over one (1) or more of the following:

(A) The location of the offense

(A) The location of the offense.

(B) The location of the defendant's residence at any time between the defendant's arrest and the conclusion of the defendant's sentence.

(b) A domestic batterer who knowingly or intentionally fails to surrender any:

(1) firearm; or

- (1) in car in
- (2) license•

(2) license, owned or possessed by the domestic batterer commits unlawful retention of a firearm or license by a domestic batterer, a Class A misdemeanor. However, the offense is a Level 6 felony if the person has a prior unrelated conviction for an offense under this section.

(c) It is a defense to a prosecution under this section that:



(1) a court did not issue a written order described in section 6.4(a) of this chapter before the domestic batterer's failure to surrender any firearm or license owned or possessed by the domestic batterer; or

(2) the appropriate law enforcement agency or law enforcement officer failed to confiscate a firearm or license eligible for confiscation under this section in a timely manner.

(d) It is not a defense to a prosecution under this section that a firearm or license subject to confiscation by a law enforcement agency or law enforcement officer under this section was in the possession of a third party not specified in the court order described in section 6.4(a) of this chapter.

(e) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prevent a person who is:

(1) the rightful owner of a firearm confiscated under this section; and

(2) not otherwise disqualified or prohibited from owning or possessing a firearm under state or federal law;

from reclaiming a confiscated firearm from the law enforcement agency or law enforcement officer responsible for originally confiscating the firearm.

SECTION 9. IC 35-47-4-6.4 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6.4. (a) A court, upon entering a judgment of conviction for domestic battery or a crime of domestic violence, shall issue a written order that does the following:

(1) Prohibits the defendant from owning or possessing a firearm

(2) Requires the defendant to surrender all firearms and licenses owned or possessed by the defendant.

(3) Orders an appropriate law enforcement:

(A) agency; or

(B) officer;

to confiscate all firearms and all licenses owned or possessed by the defendant.

(4) Advises the defendant of the rights described in section 7 of this chapter.

(b) A law enforcement agency or law enforcement officer subject to a written court order described in subsection (a) shall comply with subsection (a) not later than seventy-two (72) hours after receipt of the written court order described in subsection (a).

SECTION 10. JC 35-47-4-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.181-2014.



1 SECTION 18, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
2 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) Notwithstanding IC 35-47-2, IC 35-47-2.5,
3 the restoration of the right to serve on a jury under IC 33-28-5-18, the
4 restoration of the right to vote under IC 3-7-13-5, or the expungement
5 of a crime of domestic violence under IC 35-38-9, and except as
6 provided in subsections (b), (c), and (f), a person who has been
7 convicted of a crime of domestic violence may not possess a firearm.
8 (b) Not earlier than five (5) years after the date of conviction, a
9 person who has been convicted of a crime of domestic violence may
10 petition the court for restoration of the person's right to possess a
11 firearm. In determining whether to restore the person's right to possess
12 a firearm, the court shall consider the following factors:
13 (1) Whether the person has been subject to:
14 (A) a protective order;
15 (B) a no contact order;
16 (C) a workplace violence restraining order; or
17 (D) any other court order that prohibits the person from
18 possessing a firearm.
19 (2) Whether the person has successfully completed a substance
20 abuse program, if applicable.
21 (3) Whether the person has successfully completed a parenting
22 class, if applicable.
23 (4) Whether the person still presents a threat to the victim of the
24 crime.
25 (5) Whether there is any other reason why the person should not
26 possess a firearm, including whether the person failed to satisfy
27 a specified condition under subsection (c) or whether the person
28 has committed a subsequent offense.
29 (c) The court may condition the restoration of a person's right to
30 possess a firearm upon the person's satisfaction of specified conditions.
31 (d) If the court denies a petition for restoration of the right to
32 possess a firearm, the person may not file a second or subsequent
33 petition until one (1) year has elapsed after the filing of the most recent
34 petition.
35 (e) A person has not been convicted of a crime of domestic violence
36 for purposes of subsection (a) if the person has been pardoned.
37 (f) The right to possess a firearm shall be restored to a person whose
38 conviction is reversed on appeal or on postconviction review at the
39 earlier of the following:
40 (1) At the time the prosecuting attorney states on the record that
41 the charges that gave rise to the conviction will not be refiled.
42 (2) Ninety (90) days after the final disposition of the appeal or the



postconviction proceeding.

(g) If a person's right to possess a firearm is restored under this section, any:

(1) written court order issued under section 6.4 of this chapter shall be vacated;

(2) firearm confiscated under section 6.4 of this chapter shall be:

(A) disposed of; or

(B) returned to the rightful owner;

in the manner described in IC 35-47-3; and

(3) valid license confiscated under section 6.4 of this chapter shall be made available to the person not later than seventy-two (72) hours after the person's right to possess a firearm has been restored.

