



Adopted	Rejected
---------	----------

COMMITTEE REPORT

YES:	9
NO:	2

MR. SPEAKER:

*Your Committee on Local Government, to which was referred Senate Bill 176, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that said bill **be amended** as follows:*

- 1 Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert the following:
- 2 SECTION 1. IC 14-22-31.5-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.152-2011,
- 3 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 4 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. Except as specifically prohibited by this chapter
- 5 and subject to IC 35-47-11.1 **and IC 36-7-4.2**, a local unit of
- 6 government may regulate the location, use, operation, safety, and
- 7 construction of a shooting range.
- 8 SECTION 2. IC 14-22-31.5-8 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
- 9 CODE AS A **NEW SECTION** TO READ AS FOLLOWS
- 10 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 8. (a) The maintenance, repair,**
- 11 **renovation, modernization, or expansion of buildings, structures,**
- 12 **or facilities used in connection with a shooting range, including**

1 **improvements to safety, security accessibility, or environmental**
 2 **controls, is a continuation of a permitted use and may not be**
 3 **treated by a local unit of government as:**

- 4 (1) **an expansion of a nonconforming use; or**
 5 (2) **a basis to deny, delay, or condition approval of any permit**
 6 **that is otherwise required under applicable building codes or**
 7 **safety regulations.**

8 (b) **A local unit of government shall review and act upon any**
 9 **application for a permit described in subsection (a) using the same**
 10 **objective standards and procedures that apply to similarly situated**
 11 **commercial, industrial, or agricultural properties, without regard**
 12 **to the:**

- 13 (1) **type of goods or services offered by the shooting range; or**
 14 (2) **status of the property with respect to annexation.**

15 (c) **A local unit of government may not condition, explicitly or**
 16 **implicitly, the approval, issuance, or timely processing of a permit**
 17 **described in subsection (a) on the:**

- 18 (1) **owner's or operator's consent to annexation by a**
 19 **municipality (as defined in IC 36-1-2-11); or**
 20 (2) **waiver of any right granted to the owner or operator**
 21 **under this chapter or any other law.**

22 (d) **Nothing in this section prohibits a local unit of government**
 23 **from enforcing generally applicable building, fire, or safety codes**
 24 **that are:**

- 25 (1) **neutral and of general applicability; and**
 26 (2) **not adopted or applied for the purpose of restricting,**
 27 **hindering, or causing the closure of a shooting range.**

28 SECTION 3. IC 35-47-16-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.186-2025,
 29 SECTION 247, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 30 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. A judicial officer **or retired**
 31 **judicial officer:**

- 32 (1) **may possess and use a firearm in the same locations that a law**
 33 **enforcement officer who is authorized to carry a firearm under**
 34 **IC 5-2-1 may possess a firearm while the law enforcement officer**
 35 **is engaged in the execution of the law enforcement officer's**
 36 **official duties; and**
 37 (2) **may not be prohibited from possessing a firearm on land or in**
 38 **buildings and other structures owned or leased by:**

- 1 (A) the state or any agency of state government; or
- 2 (B) a political subdivision (as defined in IC 3-5-2.1-79).

3 SECTION 4. IC 35-47-16-2, AS ADDED BY P.L.147-2014,
 4 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 5 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. A judicial officer **or retired judicial officer**
 6 who possesses a firearm as described in section 1 of this chapter has
 7 the same civil and criminal immunities and defenses concerning
 8 possession and use of the firearm that a law enforcement officer has
 9 when the law enforcement officer:

- 10 (1) possesses and uses a firearm; and
- 11 (2) is engaged in the execution of the law enforcement officer's
- 12 official duties.

13 SECTION 5. IC 36-7-4.2 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
 14 AS A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 15 JULY 1, 2026]:

16 **Chapter 4.2. Permitted Uses; Indoor Shooting Ranges; Sporting**
 17 **Goods Stores**

18 **Sec. 1. The definitions in IC 36-1-2 and IC 36-7-1 apply**
 19 **throughout this chapter.**

20 **Sec. 2. (a) This chapter does not apply to property within:**

- 21 (1) **a historic area or historic zoning district created under:**
- 22 (A) **IC 36-7-11;**
- 23 (B) **IC 36-7-11.1;**
- 24 (C) **IC 36-7-11.2; or**
- 25 (D) **IC 36-7-11.3;**
- 26 (2) **a flood plain (as defined in IC 14-8-2-99); or**
- 27 (3) **subject to subsection (b), an area zoned for commercial use**
 28 **that authorizes mixed use residential projects.**

29 **(b) Subsection (a)(3) does not include areas that contain a**
 30 **shooting range (as defined in IC 14-22-31.5-3) that:**

- 31 (1) **was lawfully established and in operation before July 1,**
 32 **2026;**
- 33 (2) **was located on property zoned for commercial use on or**
 34 **before July 1, 2026; and**
- 35 (3) **seeks to develop an indoor shooting range after June 30,**
 36 **2026, within the geographic boundaries of the shooting range**
 37 **as it existed on July 1, 2026.**

38 **Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "indoor shooting range" means**

1 a fully enclosed facility designed and operated for the discharge of
 2 firearms, equipped with a bullet resistant backstop, ventilation
 3 system, and sound attenuation measures to prevent the escape of
 4 projectiles, excessive noise, or airborne contaminants.

5 Sec. 4. As used in this chapter, "mixed use residential" means a
 6 development project that provides within a shared building or
 7 development area:

8 (1) residential uses, including multiple dwelling units; and

9 (2) nonresidential uses that:

10 (A) comprise less than fifty percent (50%) of the total
 11 square footage of the development; and

12 (B) are restricted to the first floor of any building
 13 consisting of at least two (2) stories.

14 Sec. 5. As used in this chapter, "permitted use" means a use that
 15 is approved by a unit in a zoning district without the requirement
 16 of:

17 (1) a public hearing;

18 (2) a variance, special exception, contingent use, or
 19 conditional use; or

20 (3) other discretionary zoning action, other than a
 21 determination that a site plan conforms with applicable
 22 zoning regulations.

23 Sec. 6. As used in this chapter, "retail sporting goods store"
 24 means a commercial retail store that is primarily engaged in
 25 retailing new sporting goods classified under the North American
 26 Industry Classification Code 451110 (sporting goods stores),
 27 including items such as:

28 (1) bicycles and bicycle parts;

29 (2) camping equipment;

30 (3) exercise and fitness equipment;

31 (4) athletic uniforms;

32 (5) specialty sports footwear;

33 (6) firearms; and

34 (7) other sporting goods, equipment, and accessories.

35 Sec. 7. As used in this chapter, "will-serve letter" means a
 36 written document:

37 (1) issued by a water and sewer service provider to an owner
 38 or developer of a project or dwelling; and

- 1 (2) that states the provider is able and willing to provide
- 2 water and sewer service to the project or dwelling subject to
- 3 the conditions, if any, set forth in the document.
- 4 **Sec. 8. (a) Notwithstanding IC 36-7-4 or any other law, the**
- 5 **following are permitted uses:**
- 6 (1) A retail sporting goods store within an area zoned for
- 7 commercial use under section 9 of this chapter.
- 8 (2) An indoor shooting range within an area zoned for
- 9 commercial, industrial, or agricultural use under section 10
- 10 of this chapter.
- 11 **(b) Notwithstanding IC 36-7-4 or any other law, a unit may not**
- 12 **adopt or enforce restrictions regarding indoor shooting ranges or**
- 13 **retail sporting goods stores that violate this chapter.**
- 14 **Sec. 9. (a) If a property is zoned for commercial use, a retail**
- 15 **sporting goods store is a permitted use on each lot or parcel.**
- 16 **(b) A unit may require:**
- 17 (1) a will-serve letter for a retail sporting goods store under
- 18 subsection (a); and
- 19 (2) an application fee.
- 20 **Sec. 10. (a) If a property is zoned for commercial, industrial, or**
- 21 **agricultural use, an indoor shooting range is permitted on any lot**
- 22 **or parcel if the following conditions are satisfied:**
- 23 (1) The walls, ceilings, floors, and backstops must be
- 24 constructed with materials capable of containing all
- 25 projectiles fired within the facility.
- 26 (2) Reasonable effort is made in the design, construction, and
- 27 maintenance of the indoor shooting range to limit noise that
- 28 could significantly impact adjacent properties.
- 29 **(b) A unit may require:**
- 30 (1) a will-serve letter for an indoor shooting range under
- 31 subsection (a); and
- 32 (2) an application fee.
- 33 **(c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the scope**
- 34 **of federal and state law governing firearm safety, environmental**
- 35 **controls, and occupational health.**
- 36 **Sec. 11. A zoning ordinance adopted before July 1, 2026, is void**

1 **to the extent the ordinance conflicts with this chapter. However,**
2 **this chapter does not apply to or affect any application for a permit**
3 **under IC 36-7-4 submitted to a unit before July 1, 2026.**

(Reference is to SB 176 as printed January 21, 2026.)

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

Representative May