



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 998

H.P. 645

House of Representatives, March 11, 2025

An Act Regarding an Employer's Authority to Prohibit an Employee from Storing a Firearm in the Employee's Vehicle

Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT

Clerk

Presented by Representative COLLINS of Sidney.

Cosponsored by Representative POIRIER of Skowhegan, Senator HAGGAN of Penobscot and Representatives: DAIGLE of Fort Kent, DRINKWATER of Milford, FLYNN of Albion, HAGGAN of Hampden, SMITH of Palermo, TUELL of East Machias, Senators: BRADSTREET of Kennebec, MOORE of Washington.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §600, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2011, c. 537, §1, is further amended to read:

1. Firearms in vehicles. An employer or an agent of an employer may not prohibit an employee who has a valid permit to carry a concealed firearm under Title 25, chapter 252 from keeping a firearm in the employee's vehicle as long as the vehicle is locked and the firearm is not visible. This subsection applies to the State as an employer when a state employee's vehicle is on property owned or leased by the State. This subsection does not authorize an employee or state employee to carry a firearm in a place where carrying a firearm is prohibited by law. For purposes of this section, "state employee" means an employee of the State within the executive branch, the legislative branch or the judicial branch performing services within the scope of that employee's employment.

SUMMARY

This bill modifies the provision of law governing an employer's authority to prohibit an employee from storing a firearm in the employee's vehicle. The current law states that an employer is not permitted to prohibit an employee from storing a firearm in the employee's vehicle if the employee has a valid permit to carry a concealed firearm under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 25, chapter 252, as long as the vehicle is locked and the firearm is stored out of sight. The bill removes the specification that the employee must have a valid permit to carry a concealed firearm.