

**House File 2281 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 2281  
BY COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 2042)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the possession of a pistol, revolver, or  
2 ammunition by persons under fourteen years of age, and  
3 including effective date provisions.  
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 724.22, subsection 5, Code 2016, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 5. A parent or guardian or spouse who is twenty-one years of  
4 age or older, of a person ~~fourteen years of age but less than~~  
5 under the age of twenty-one may allow the person to possess a  
6 pistol or revolver or the ammunition therefor for any lawful  
7 purpose while under the direct supervision of the parent or  
8 guardian or spouse who is twenty-one years of age or older, or  
9 while the person receives instruction in the proper use thereof  
10 from an instructor twenty-one years of age or older, with the  
11 consent of such parent, or guardian or spouse.

12 Sec. 2. Section 724.22, Code 2016, is amended by adding the  
13 following new subsections:

14 NEW SUBSECTION. 8. A parent or guardian or spouse who is  
15 twenty-one years of age or older, of a minor under the age of  
16 fourteen years who allows that minor to possess a pistol or  
17 revolver or the ammunition therefor for any lawful purpose  
18 while under direct supervision of the parent or guardian or  
19 spouse who is twenty-one years of age or older, shall be  
20 strictly liable to an injured party for all damages resulting  
21 from the possession of the pistol or revolver or ammunition  
22 therefor by that minor.

23 NEW SUBSECTION. 9. As used in this section, "*direct*  
24 *supervision*" means supervision provided by another person who  
25 maintains visual and verbal contact at all times with the  
26 supervised person.

27 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE UPON ENACTMENT. This Act, being deemed of  
28 immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

29 EXPLANATION

30 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
31 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

32 This bill relates to the possession of a pistol, revolver, or  
33 ammunition by persons under the age of 14.

34 Current law prohibits all persons including a parent,  
35 guardian, or spouse from allowing a person under 14 years of

1 age to possess a pistol, revolver, or the ammunition therefor.  
2 A person who violates current law commits a serious misdemeanor  
3 for a first offense and a class "D" felony for any second or  
4 subsequent offense.

5 Current law does allow a person at least 14 years of age but  
6 under 21 years of age to possess a pistol, revolver, or the  
7 ammunition therefor, if such person has consent from a parent,  
8 guardian, or spouse who is 21 years of age or older. Current  
9 law also permits a person under 21 years of age but at least  
10 18 years of age, while on military duty, or while acting as  
11 a peace officer, security guard, or correctional officer, to  
12 possess a pistol, revolver, or the ammunition therefor without  
13 consent from a parent, guardian, or spouse.

14 The bill allows a parent, guardian, or spouse who is 21 years  
15 of age or older, while under the direct supervision of the  
16 parent, guardian, or spouse, or an instructor 21 years of age  
17 or older with the consent of the parent, guardian, or spouse,  
18 to permit a person under 14 years of age to possess a pistol or  
19 revolver or the ammunition therefor, which may then be lawfully  
20 used.

21 The bill provides that a parent or guardian or spouse who  
22 is 21 years of age or older, of a minor under 14 years of age,  
23 who allows that minor to possess a pistol or revolver or the  
24 ammunition therefor for any lawful purpose while under the  
25 direct supervision of the parent or guardian or spouse who  
26 is 21 years of age or older, shall be strictly liable to an  
27 injured party for all damages resulting from the possession of  
28 the pistol or revolver or ammunition therefor by that minor.

29 The bill defines "direct supervision" for purposes of Code  
30 section 724.22 to mean supervision provided by another person  
31 who maintains visual and verbal contact at all times with the  
32 supervised person.

33 The bill takes effect upon enactment.