

SHOOTING RANGE REQUIREMENTS

2024 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Doug Owens

Senate Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill modifies provisions relating to shooting ranges.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms;
 - ▶ waives fees at certain public shooting ranges for military service members, veterans, peace officers, and retired peace officers;
 - ▶ exempts Department of Public Safety shooting ranges from certain requirements;
- and
- ▶ makes technical and conforming changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

47-3-304, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2013, Chapter 155

47-3-305, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapter 246

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:



28 Section 1. Section **47-3-304** is amended to read:

29 **47-3-304. Fees.**

30 (1) As used in this section:

31 (a) "Military service member" means the same as that term is defined in Section
32 53B-8-102.

33 (b) "Peace officer" means an officer described in Section 53-13-102.

34 (c) "Retired peace officer" means a peace officer who has become eligible, applies for,
35 and may receive an allowance under Title 49, Utah State
36 Retirement and Insurance Benefit Act.

37 (d) "Veteran" means the same as that term is defined in Section 68-3-12.5.

38 (2) Reasonable fees for the use of a shooting range to cover the incidental material and
39 supply costs incurred by making the range available to a group, may be established by:

40 (a) the State Armory Board established under Title 39A, Chapter 2, State
41 Armory Board, for a military range; and

42 (b) for a nonmilitary range, the state agency, institution of higher education, or political
43 subdivision that operates or has control of the range.

44 ~~[(2)]~~ (3) Fees for nonmilitary shooting range use may not exceed fees charged by the
45 Department of Natural Resources for the same or similar activity.

46 (4) (a) Fees established under Subsection (2) are waived for military service members,
47 peace officers, retired peace officers, and veterans at state-owned public shooting ranges.

48 (b) Notwithstanding Subsection 47-3-305(1)(b), fees are waived for military service
49 members, peace officers, retired peace officers, and veterans at shooting ranges that are
50 operated as a public shooting range staffed and operated by the Division of Wildlife Resources.

51 (c) Waived fees under this Subsection (4) do not include materials such as clay pigeons
52 or special targets.

53 ~~[(3)]~~ (5) Fees collected under Subsection ~~[(1)]~~ (2) shall be:

54 (a) for a shooting range operated or controlled by a state agency or an institution of
55 higher education, deposited ~~[in]~~ into the General Fund as dedicated credits to be used for the
56 operation and maintenance of the range; and

57 (b) for a shooting range operated or controlled by a political subdivision, deposited in
58 the political subdivision's general fund.

59 Section 2. Section **47-3-305** is amended to read:

60 **47-3-305. Exceptions and prohibitions.**

61 (1) This part does not apply to:

62 (a) shooting ranges that are otherwise open to the public;

63 (b) shooting ranges that are operated as a public shooting range staffed by and operated
64 by Division of Wildlife Resources;

65 (c) the Utah National Guard ranges located at Camp Williams and the Salt Lake
66 International Airport;

67 (d) Department of Corrections ranges;

68 (e) Department of Public Safety ranges; and

69 [~~e~~] (f) ranges owned, operated, or currently leased as of March 26, 2013, by a state or
70 local public safety agency.

71 (2) (a) Firearms may not be allowed in a school building, except under the provision of
72 Section 76-10-505.5, unless there is an outdoor entrance to the shooting range and the most
73 direct access to the range is used.

74 (b) An outdoor entrance to a shooting range may not be blocked by fences, structures,
75 or gates for the purpose of blocking the outdoor entrance.

76 (3) (a) Only air guns may be used in public ranges [~~where~~] in which the ventilation
77 systems do not meet current OSHA standards as applied to the duration of exposure of the
78 participants.

79 (b) For the purposes of this part, an air gun does not include a larger caliber pneumatic
80 [~~weapons~~] weapon, paintball [~~guns~~] gun, or air [~~shotguns~~] shotgun.

81 (4) Group range use is a lawful, approved activity under Subsection 76-10-505.5(4)(a).

82 Section 3. **Effective date.**

83 This bill takes effect on May 1, 2024.