



**DONNA CAMPBELL, M.D.**  
TEXAS STATE SENATOR  
DISTRICT 25

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## **SENATE PASSES BILL TO REDUCE CHL HOURS**

### *Sen. Campbell's Bill Fortifies Second Amendment Rights*

AUSTIN - A bill to reduce the number of classroom hours to receive a Concealed Handgun License in Texas, authored by freshman Sen. Donna Campbell, easily passed the Senate Thursday by a vote of 30 to 1. The bill reduces the current requirement from 10 hours to 4 to 6 hours plus range time.

"This is a common sense measure that will bring our law in line with what others states require. It streamlines the classroom time without affecting range proficiency requirements or changing any of the standards. I believe the end result will be a more productive course that provides Texans with greater access to exercise their Second Amendment rights," Senator Campbell said.

Senator Campbell reiterated that SB 864 would only affect the theory portion of the course. It makes no changes to the material requirements or other criteria to qualify for a CHL.

"All we're reducing is the unnecessary time burden that made it difficult for working folks to obtain their concealed-carry license," Sen. Campbell stated.

The bill came out of committee unanimously with several CHL instructors in agreement that the materials could be taught in a shorter period of time. The bill also received the backing of the Texas State Rifle Association, an NRA state affiliate.

"The Texas State Rifle Association thanks Sen. Donna Campbell for filing SB 864, which moves to streamline the Texas concealed carry course by bringing the theory portion of the course into step with 33 other right to carry states without sacrificing safety," Legislative Director Alice Tripp stated.

This is the first time the course requirements have been revisited since the Legislature passed the original bill in 1995. Those requirements were set into statute before DPS had designed the current program.

SB 864 will now head to the Texas House. Similar legislation authored by Rep. Dan Flynn cleared the Homeland Security and Public Safety Committee by a vote of 7 to 2, but has yet to be heard on the House Floor.

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*Senator Donna Campbell represents Senate District 25 which includes all or parts of Bexar, Comal, Guadalupe, Hays, Kendall and Travis counties. She is a practicing emergency room physician who lives in New Braunfels with her husband and the youngest of their four daughters.*