



Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007  
**Introducer's Statement of Intent**  
**LB 695**

---

**Chairperson:** Brad Ashford  
**Committee:** Judiciary  
**Date of Hearing:** February 2, 2007

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

Legislative Bill 695 would clarify that state firearms statutes with regard to the ownership, possession, transport, and the concealed carry of firearms preempt the enactments of local governmental subdivisions when the two are in conflict.

Currently, local firearms ordinances are not consistent in all areas of Nebraska, thus creating a patchwork of laws and ordinances in the state regarding the possession, transport, and the concealed carry of firearms. This patchwork creates confusion as to what is lawful and unlawful as you travel through the state of Nebraska. LB 695 addresses these concerns that state policy regarding the basic regulation of firearms is clearly and uniformly applied across Nebraska.

This bill amends state statutes 14-102, 15-255, 16-227, and 17-556, which list what may be regulated through ordinance for each different class of city and village. In each section where it grants the authority to cities and villages to either prohibit, punish, or prevent the carrying of concealed weapons, an exception is given to clarify that this does *not* include the carrying of a concealed *handgun* in compliance with the Concealed Handgun Permit Act.

In addition, in Section 5 of LB 695 is new language specifically stating that cities and villages do not have the power to regulate the ownership, possession, or transportation of firearms, except as is expressly provided by state law. This section also states that any existing ordinances, permits, or regulations regarding the ownership, possession, or transportation of firearms are null and void.

LB 695 would not apply to local zoning issues, such as the discharge of a firearm within the corporate limits of a municipality. That would continue to be a matter of local determination.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Senator Mark Christensen**