

**SUBJECT:** Allowing a concealed handgun license as valid proof of identification

**COMMITTEE:** Business and Industry — favorable, without amendment

**VOTE:** 5 ayes — Oliveira, Simmons, Fletcher, Romero, Villalba

2 nays — Collier, Rinaldi

**WITNESSES:** For — (*Registered, but did not testify:* Michael Weaver, Church Group; Angela Smith, Fredericksburg Tea Party; Matt Long; Sandy Ward)

Against — None

**BACKGROUND:** Government Code, ch. 411, subch. H establishes the requirements for obtaining a concealed handgun license.

Because eligibility and verification requirements for obtaining a concealed handgun license are more extensive than those for acquiring a driver's license, some have called for concealed handgun licenses to be allowed to serve as valid proof of identification.

**DIGEST:** HB 2739 would allow the use of a concealed handgun license as valid proof of identification and would prohibit denying a concealed handgun license holder access to goods, services, or facilities because the license holder presented the concealed handgun license rather than a driver's license or other acceptable form of personal identification. However, a driver's license still would be required instead of a concealed handgun license to rent or operate a vehicle.

This bill would not affect the requirement that a person carrying a handgun show both a driver's license (or identification certificate) in addition to a handgun license when demanded by a magistrate or peace officer. The bill would not affect the types of identification that are required to access airport premises or pass through airport security.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2015.