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Chadrad Communications, Inc.
226 Bordeaux St - Chadron, NE 69337
308-432-5545 fax 308-432-5601
E-mail: kcsr@chadrad.com

(SD)-Noem Signs Permitless Carry Bill

By: John Axtell Posted at: 01/31/2019 11:53 PM

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) - South Dakota Gov. Kristi Noem has signed a measure allowing people to carry concealed pistols without a permit in the state.

It's the first bill Noem has signed into law since taking office earlier this month. Noem says it will further protect the Second Amendment rights of the citizens of South Dakota and the nation.

It's a win for conservatives who have long pushed the proposal, which languished under former Gov. Dennis Daugaard. The law will take effect July 1 with South Dakota joining at least 13 states that allow the practice.

It's currently a misdemeanor for someone to carry a concealed pistol or to have one concealed in a vehicle without a permit.

The South Dakota Sheriffs' Association opposed the measure, contending current limitations under the permit process are reasonable.