

2018 -- H 7591

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LC004568
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2018

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A N A C T

RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES - WEAPONS - SAFE SCHOOLS ACT

Introduced By: Representatives Kazarian, Ajello, Fogarty, Knight, and Hearn

Date Introduced: February 14, 2018

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 11-47-60 of the General Laws in Chapter 11-47 entitled "Weapons"
2 is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **11-47-60. Possession of firearms on school grounds.**

4 (a) (1) No person shall have in his or her possession any firearm or other weapons on
5 school grounds.

6 (2) For the purposes of this section, "school grounds" means the property of a public or
7 private elementary or secondary school or in those portions of any building, stadium, or other
8 structure on school grounds which were, at the time of the violation, being used for an activity
9 sponsored by or through a school in this state or while riding school provided transportation.

10 (3) Every person violating the provisions of this section shall, upon conviction, be
11 sentenced to imprisonment for not less than one year nor more than five (5) years, or shall be
12 fined not less than five hundred dollars (\$500) nor more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000).

13 (4) Any juvenile adjudicated delinquent pursuant to this statute shall, in addition to
14 whatever other penalties are imposed by the family court, lose his or her license to operate a
15 motor vehicle for up to six (6) months. If the juvenile has not yet obtained the necessary age to
16 obtain a license, the court may impose as part of its sentence a delay in his or her right to obtain
17 the license when eligible to do so, for a period of up to six (6) months.

18 (b) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any person who shall be exempt
19 pursuant to the provisions of ~~§§~~ 11-47-9, who is a "peace officer" as defined in §§ 12-7-21 ~~11-47-~~

1 ~~11~~ and 11-47-18(b) or to the following activities when the activities are officially recognized and
2 sanctioned by the educational institution:

3 (1) Firearm instruction and/or safety courses;

4 (2) Government-sponsored military-related programs such as ROTC;

5 (3) Interscholastic shooting and/or marksmanship events;

6 (4) Military history and firearms collection courses and/or programs; and

7 (5) The use of blank guns in theatrical and/or athletic events.

8 (c) The provisions of this section shall not apply to colleges, universities, or junior
9 colleges.

10 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES - WEAPONS - SAFE SCHOOLS ACT

1 This act would provide that only peace officers and persons approved by the school
2 authorities for the purposes of educational instruction may carry firearms or other weapons on
3 school grounds.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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