

2023 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 158

BY SENATOR LAMBERT

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

WEAPONS. Provides for the protection of schools. (gov sig)

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AN ACT

To enact R.S. 14:95(A)(4)(b)(iv) and R.S. 17:416.16.1, relative to the illegal carrying of weapons; to exempt certain persons from the crime of illegal carrying of weapons; to provide relative to concealed handgun permits; to authorize certain persons to be designated as school protection officers; to provide for training and requirements for school protection officers; to provide for the duties and responsibilities of school protection officers; to provide for continuous certification; to provide for revocation of the school protection officer designation; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 14:95(A)(4)(b)(iv) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§95. Illegal carrying of weapons

A. Illegal carrying of weapons is any of the following:

* * *

(4)

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(b) The provisions of this Paragraph shall not apply to:

* * *

(iv) Any person designated as a school protection officer pursuant to R.S.

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17:416.16.1.

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Section 2. R.S. 17:416.16.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§416.16.1. School Protection Officers

A. Any school district within the state may designate one or more persons as a school protection officer.

B. Any person designated by a school district as a school protection officer shall be authorized to carry concealed firearms in any school in the district. The school protection officer shall not allow any firearm out of his personal control while that firearm is on school property. Any school protection officer who violates this Subsection shall be removed immediately from the campus and may be subject to employment termination proceedings.

C. Any person who seeks to be designated as a school protection officer shall request the designation in writing and submit it to the superintendent of the school district of the school for which he is requesting the designation. In addition to this request, any person seeking to carry a concealed firearm on school property shall also submit proof that he has a valid concealed handgun permit issued pursuant to R.S. 40:1379.3. No school district may allow a school protection officer to carry a concealed firearm on school property unless the school protection officer has a valid concealed handgun permit and complies with the requirements of this Section.

D. All persons seeking the designation of school protection officer shall submit a certificate of completion from a training program approved by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of state police, which demonstrates that the person has successfully completed the minimum training requirements for peace officers established by the Council on Peace Officer Standards and Training pursuant to R.S. 40:2404.2(A). No school district may designate a person as a school protection officer unless that person has successfully completed the P.O.S.T. training program.

1 E.(1) Any school district that designates a person as a school protection
2 officer shall, within thirty days, notify in writing the superintendent of state
3 police of the designation, which notification shall include the following:

4 (a) The full name, date of birth, and address of the school protection
5 officer.

6 (b) The name of the school district.

7 (c) The date the person was designated as a school protection officer.

8 (2) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law to the contrary, any
9 identifying information collected under the authority of this Subsection shall not
10 be considered public information and shall not be subject to a request for public
11 records.

12 F. Any person designated as a school protection officer shall annually
13 provide proof of a valid concealed handgun permit and shall maintain
14 continuous Peace Officer Standards and Training certification, proof of which
15 shall be provided to the superintendent of the school district in which the school
16 protection officer is employed.

17 G. A school district may revoke the designation of a person as a school
18 protection officer for any reason and shall immediately notify the designated
19 school protection officer in writing of the revocation. The school district shall
20 also within fifteen days of revocation notify the superintendent of state police
21 in writing of the revocation of the designation of the person as a school
22 protection officer. A person who has had the designation of school protection
23 officer revoked has the right to appeal the revocation decision to the
24 superintendent of state police, who has final authority.

25 H. The superintendent of state police shall maintain a list of all persons
26 designated by school districts as school protection officers and shall make this
27 list available to all law enforcement agencies.

