

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 721

BY REPRESENTATIVE VENTRELLA

WEAPONS/HANDGUNS: Provides for the carrying of a concealed weapon by a certified teacher or school administrator on a school campus

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 40:1379.3(N)(11) and to enact R.S. 14:95(A)(4)(b)(iv) and (J),
3 relative to the carrying of weapons; to provide for an exception to the illegal carrying
4 of weapons; to provide for an exception to the prohibited locations where a
5 concealed handgun cannot be carried; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

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

8 §95. Illegal carrying of weapons

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

10 * * *

11 (4)(a) The intentional possession or use by any person of a dangerous
12 weapon on a school campus during regular school hours or on a school bus.

13 "School" means any elementary, secondary, high school, or vo-tech school in this
14 state and "campus" means all facilities and property within the boundary of the
15 school property. "School bus" means any motor bus being used to transport children
16 to and from school or in connection with school activities.

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

18 * * *

Present law provides that one of the circumstances that constitutes the illegal carrying of weapons is the intentional possession or use by any person of a dangerous weapon on a school campus during regular school hours or on a school bus.

Present law provides for exceptions to this circumstance as follows:

- (1) A peace officer as defined by present law (R.S. 14:30(B)) in the performance of his official duties.
- (2) A school official or employee acting during the normal course of his employment or a student acting under the direction of such school official or employee.
- (3) Any person having the written permission of the principal or school board and engaged in competition or in marksmanship or safety instruction.

Proposed law retains present law and provides an additional exception for any certified teacher or administrator pursuant to proposed law.

Proposed law provides that present law (R.S. 14:95) shall not prohibit the carrying of a concealed handgun in a school or on a school campus by any certified teacher or school administrator who is employed by a school district and possesses a valid concealed handgun permit pursuant to present law (R.S. 40:1379.3).

Present law (R.S. 40:1379.3) provides for statewide permits for concealed handguns.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law (R.S. 40:1379.3(N)) provides for locations where a person cannot bring a concealed handgun. Further provides that one of these locations is any school, school campus, or school bus as defined in present law (R.S. 14:95.6).

Proposed law amends present law to provide an exception for any certified teacher or school administrator who is employed by a school district and possesses a valid concealed handgun permit pursuant to present law (R.S. 40:1379.3).

(Amends R.S. 40:1379.3(N)(11); Adds R.S. 14:95(A)(4)(b)(iv) and (J))