

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
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HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH10480-MT-120

Short Title: School Safety Changes for Nonpublic Schools.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representative Bell.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO ENCOURAGE PRIVATE SCHOOLS TO COORDINATE WITH LOCAL LAW
3 ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES TO ADOPT SCHOOL RISK MANAGEMENT PLANS, TO
4 PROVIDE THAT CERTAIN EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS AT PRIVATE
5 SCHOOLS MAY CARRY CERTAIN WEAPONS ON EDUCATIONAL PROPERTY
6 WHEN AUTHORIZED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES OR SCHOOL
7 ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR, AND TO PROVIDE THAT A PERSON WHO HAS A
8 CONCEALED HANDGUN PERMIT MAY CARRY CERTAIN WEAPONS ON
9 EDUCATIONAL PROPERTY THAT IS THE LOCATION OF BOTH A SCHOOL AND
10 A PLACE OF RELIGIOUS WORSHIP WHEN THE PERSON IS ATTENDING WORSHIP
11 SERVICES AND OTHER SACERDOTAL FUNCTIONS AT THE PLACE OF
12 RELIGIOUS WORSHIP AS LONG AS STUDENTS ARE NOT ATTENDING CLASS.

13 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

14 **SECTION 1.** Part 1 of Article 39 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended
15 by adding a new section to read:

16 "**§ 115C-548.5. School safety management.**

17 (a) Each private church school or school of religious charter, in coordination with local
18 law enforcement and emergency management agencies, is encouraged to adopt a school risk
19 management plan relating to incidents of school violence. Each private school is encouraged to
20 provide schematic diagrams and keys to the main entrance of school facilities to local law
21 enforcement agencies and may place school crisis kits in schools.

22 (b) At least once a year, each private church school or school of religious charter is
23 encouraged to hold a full school-wide lockdown exercise with local law enforcement and
24 emergency management agencies as part of the school risk management plan.

25 (c) With the consent of the local sheriff, a school board of trustees or a school
26 administrative director, as defined in G.S. 14-269.2(a), of a private church school or school of
27 religious charter may authorize a person who has a concealed handgun permit issued in
28 accordance with Article 54B of this Chapter or considered valid under G.S. 14-415.24 to possess
29 and carry a handgun on the educational property that is owned, used, or operated by the private
30 school pursuant to G.S. 14-269.2(g). The private school is encouraged to coordinate with local
31 law enforcement on the role and responsibilities in the school risk management plan of any
32 person permitted to possess and carry a handgun on the educational property under this
33 subsection."

34 **SECTION 2.** Part 2 of Article 39 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended
35 by adding a new section to read:

36 "**§ 115C-556.5. School safety management.**



1 (a) Each qualified nonpublic school, in coordination with local law enforcement and
2 emergency management agencies, is encouraged to adopt a school risk management plan relating
3 to incidents of school violence. Each qualified nonpublic school is encouraged to provide
4 schematic diagrams and keys to the main entrance of school facilities to local law enforcement
5 agencies and may place school crisis kits in schools.

6 (b) At least once a year, each qualified nonpublic school is encouraged to hold a full
7 school-wide lockdown exercise with local law enforcement and emergency management
8 agencies as part of the school risk management plan.

9 (c) With consent of the local sheriff, a school board of trustees or a school administrative
10 director as defined in G.S. 14-269.2(a) of a qualified nonpublic school may authorize a person
11 who has a concealed handgun permit issued in accordance with Article 54B of this Chapter or
12 considered valid under G.S. 14-415.24 to possess and carry a handgun on the educational
13 property that is owned, used, or operated by the private school pursuant to G.S. 14-269.2(g). The
14 private school is encouraged to coordinate with local law enforcement on the role and
15 responsibilities in the school risk management plan of any person permitted to possess and carry
16 a handgun on the educational property under this subsection."

17 **SECTION 3.** G.S. 14-269.2(a) is amended by adding the following new subdivisions
18 to read:

19 "(1c) School board of trustees. – The governing body of any private school. For
20 purposes of parochial schools, the school board of trustees may be the board
21 of deacons, the board of elders, or any other designated board which oversees
22 the general affairs of the church, synagogue, temple, or other place of religious
23 worship that is affiliated with the private school.

24 (1d) School administrative director. – Any individual authorized by the school
25 board of trustees to act on behalf of the private school."

26 **SECTION 4.** G.S. 14-269.2(g) is amended by adding the following new subdivisions
27 to read:

28 "(8) An employee or volunteer of a private school who meets all of the following
29 criteria:

30 a. The person has written authorization from (i) the school board of
31 trustees or the school administrative director and (ii) the local sheriff
32 to possess and carry a handgun on the educational property that is
33 owned, used, or operated by the private school.

34 b. The weapon is a handgun.

35 c. The person has a concealed handgun permit issued in accordance with
36 Article 54B of this Chapter or is considered valid under
37 G.S. 14-415.24.

38 d. The person has successfully completed under the direct supervision of
39 a certified National Rifle Association instructor or the equivalent a
40 minimum of eight hours of courses on, or relating to, gun safety and
41 the appropriate use of firearms that is in addition to the firearms
42 training and safety course required for a concealed handgun permit
43 under G.S. 14-415.12(a)(4). This is an annual training requirement
44 that shall be performed in consultation with the law enforcement
45 agency having jurisdiction over the private school.

46 e. The private school adopts and maintains written standard operating
47 procedures regarding the possession and carrying of the weapons
48 listed in this subdivision on the educational property and distributes to
49 the parents of students attending the private school copies of the
50 written standard operating procedures on an annual basis.

1 f. The person is on the premises of the educational property that is
2 owned, used, or operated by the private school at which the person is
3 an employee or volunteer.

4 (9) A person who has a concealed handgun permit issued in accordance with
5 Article 54B of this Chapter or that is considered valid under G.S. 14-415.24
6 and who is in a place of religious worship when students are not attending
7 class that is located on educational property owned, used, or operated by the
8 membership of the place of religious worship may possess and carry a
9 handgun while the person is attending worship services, funeral services,
10 wedding ceremonies, christenings, religious fellowships, and any other
11 sacerdotal functions at the place of religious worship. For purposes of this
12 subdivision, the term "place of religious worship" includes any church, chapel,
13 meetinghouse, synagogue, temple, longhouse, mosque, or other building that
14 is regularly used and clearly identifiable as a place for religious worship. For
15 purposes of this subdivision, the term "attending" includes ingress and egress
16 between the place of religious worship and the designated parking area for the
17 place of religious worship."

18 **SECTION 5.** This act becomes effective December 1, 2019.