

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2021

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SENATE BILL 43

Short Title: Protect Religious Meeting Places. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Britt, Daniel, and Johnson (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

February 3, 2021

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO ENACT THE RELIGIOUS ASSEMBLY SECURITY AND PROTECTION ACT
3 OF 2021.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** This act shall be known as "The Religious Assembly Security and
6 Protection Act of 2021."

7 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 14-269.2(a) is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:
8 "(1c) School operating hours. – Any time when curricular or extracurricular
9 activities are taking place on the premises and any time when the premises are
10 being used for educational, instructional, or school-sponsored activities."

11 **SECTION 3.** G.S. 14-269.2 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:
12 "(k1) For the purposes of this subsection, property owned by a local board of education or
13 county commission shall not be construed as a building that is a place of religious worship as
14 defined in G.S. 14-54.1. The provisions of this section shall not apply to a person who has a
15 concealed handgun permit that is valid under Article 54B of this Chapter, or who is exempt from
16 obtaining a permit pursuant to that Article, if all of the following conditions apply:

- 17 (1) The person possesses and carries a handgun on educational property other than
18 an institution of higher education as defined by G.S. 116-143.1 or a nonpublic,
19 postsecondary educational institution.
20 (2) The educational property is the location of both a school and a building that is
21 a place of religious worship as defined in G.S. 14-54.1.
22 (3) The weapon is a handgun.
23 (4) The handgun is only possessed and carried on educational property outside of
24 the school operating hours."

25 **SECTION 4.** G.S. 14-415.11(c) reads as rewritten:
26 "(c) Except as provided in G.S. 14-415.27, a permit does not authorize a person to carry
27 a concealed handgun in any of the following:

- 28 (1) Areas prohibited by G.S. 14-269.2, ~~14-269.3, and 14-277.2~~ except as allowed
29 under G.S. 14-269.2(k1).
30 (1a) Areas prohibited by G.S. 14-269.3 and G.S. 14-277.2.
31"

32 **SECTION 5.** This act becomes effective December 1, 2021.

