

HOUSE BILL 1909

By Bulso

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39  
and Title 49, relative to self-defense.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-17-1309, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

(f) Notwithstanding another law to the contrary:

(1) It is not a violation of subsection (b) or (c) for an adult person to carry or possess pepper spray, pepper gel, mace, a taser, a stun gun, or another similar device for purposes of self-defense when in any public or private school building or bus, on the campus, grounds, recreation area, athletic field, or any other property owned, operated, or while in use by any college or university board of trustees, regents, or directors for the administration of any public or private educational institution; and

(2) A college, university, or other educational institution shall not prohibit an adult person, including a staff member, student, employee, and other adult individuals lawfully present on the college's, university's, or institution's property from carrying pepper spray, pepper gel, mace, a taser, a stun gun, or another similar device for purposes of self-defense when in any public or private school building or bus, on the campus, grounds, recreation area, athletic field, or any other property owned, operated, or while in use by any college or university board of trustees, regents, or directors for the administration of any public or private educational institution.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect July 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.