



State of Wisconsin  
2023 - 2024 LEGISLATURE

LRB-0520/1  
CMH:cdc

## 2023 ASSEMBLY BILL 684

November 27, 2023 - Introduced by Representatives SORTWELL, MAGNAFICI, ALLEN, ARMSTRONG, BEHNKE, BRANDTJEN, GOEBEN, GUSTAFSON, S. JOHNSON, RETTINGER, SCHMIDT and WICHGERS, cosponsored by Senators JAMES and NASS. Referred to Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety.

\*\*\*AUTHORS SUBJECT TO CHANGE\*\*\*

1     **AN ACT to repeal** 165.81 (2) and 941.295; **to amend** 165.63 (4) (a), 175.60 (1) (j),  
2           938.341, 938.78 (3), 939.22 (10), 948.60 (1), 971.17 (1g) and 973.176 (1); and **to**  
3           **create** 939.22 (11m) and 941.2915 of the statutes; **relating to:** eliminating the  
4           prohibitions on electric weapons and providing a penalty.

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

Current law generally prohibits a person from selling, transporting, possessing, or going armed with a device that is designed to immobilize or incapacitate persons by the use of electric current, which is commonly known as an electric weapon. Current law contains many exceptions to the prohibition, including a law enforcement officer, a person who has a license to carry a concealed weapon, a person who is in his or her dwelling or business, or a security person who has a license or permit.

This bill eliminates the current prohibitions against electric weapons. The bill creates a provision that prohibits a person who is prohibited from possessing a firearm from possessing an electric weapon.

Because this bill creates a new crime or revises a penalty for an existing crime, the Joint Review Committee on Criminal Penalties may be requested to prepare a report.

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***The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:***

**ASSEMBLY BILL 684****SECTION 1**

1           **SECTION 1.** 165.63 (4) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           165.63 (4) (a) Enforce or investigate a violation of s. 941.29 ~~or~~, 941.2905, or  
3           941.2915.

4           **SECTION 2.** 165.81 (2) of the statutes is repealed.

5           **SECTION 3.** 175.60 (1) (j) of the statutes is amended to read:

6           175.60 (1) (j) “Weapon” means a handgun, ~~an electric weapon, as defined in s.~~  
7           ~~941.295 (1e) (a),~~ or a billy club.

8           **SECTION 4.** 938.341 of the statutes is amended to read:

9           **938.341 Delinquency adjudication; restriction on firearm and electric**  
10          **weapon possession.** Whenever a court adjudicates a juvenile delinquent for an act  
11          that if committed by an adult in this state would be a felony, the court shall inform  
12          the juvenile of the requirements and penalties under s. ss. 941.29 and 941.2915.

13          **SECTION 5.** 938.78 (3) of the statutes, as affected by 2023 Wisconsin Act 10, is  
14          amended to read:

15          938.78 (3) **RELEASE OF INFORMATION WHEN ESCAPE OR ABSENCE; RULES.** If a juvenile  
16          adjudged delinquent under s. 48.12, 1993 stats., or s. 938.12 or found to be in need  
17          of protection or services under s. 48.13 (12) or (14), 1993 stats., or s. 938.13 (12) or  
18          (14) on the basis of a violation of s. 943.23 (1m) or (1r), 1999 stats., or s. 943.23 (1g),  
19          2021 stats., or s. 941.10, 941.11, 941.20, 941.21, 941.23, 941.231, 941.235, 941.237,  
20          941.26, 941.28, ~~941.295~~, 941.298, 941.30, 941.31, 941.32, 941.325, 943.02, 943.03,  
21          943.04, 943.10 (2) (a), 943.231 (1), 943.32 (2), 948.02, 948.025, 948.03, 948.05,  
22          948.055, 948.085 (2), 948.60, 948.605, or 948.61 or any crime specified in ch. 940 has  
23          escaped from a juvenile correctional facility, residential care center for children and  
24          youth, secured residential care center for children and youth, inpatient facility, as  
25          defined in s. 51.01 (10), juvenile detention facility, or juvenile portion of a county jail,

**ASSEMBLY BILL 684**

1 or from the custody of a peace officer or a guard of such a facility, center, or jail, or  
2 has been allowed to leave a juvenile correctional facility, residential care center for  
3 children and youth, secured residential care center for children and youth, inpatient  
4 facility, juvenile detention facility, or juvenile portion of a county jail for a specified  
5 time period and is absent from the facility, center, home, or jail for more than 12 hours  
6 after the expiration of the specified period, the department of corrections or county  
7 department, whichever has supervision over the juvenile, may release the juvenile's  
8 name and any information about the juvenile that is necessary for the protection of  
9 the public or to secure the juvenile's return to the facility, center, home, or jail. The  
10 department of corrections shall promulgate rules establishing guidelines for the  
11 release of the juvenile's name or information about the juvenile to the public.

12 **SECTION 6.** 939.22 (10) of the statutes is amended to read:

13 939.22 (10) "Dangerous weapon" means any firearm, whether loaded or  
14 unloaded; any device designed as a weapon and capable of producing death or great  
15 bodily harm; any ligature or other instrumentality used on the throat, neck, nose, or  
16 mouth of another person to impede, partially or completely, breathing or circulation  
17 of blood; any electric weapon, ~~as defined in s. 941.295 (1e) (a)~~; or any other device or  
18 instrumentality which, in the manner it is used or intended to be used, is calculated  
19 or likely to produce death or great bodily harm.

20 **SECTION 7.** 939.22 (11m) of the statutes is created to read:

21 939.22 (11m) "Electric weapon" means any device which is designed,  
22 redesigned, used, or intended to be used, offensively or defensively, to immobilize or  
23 incapacitate persons by the use of electric current.

24 **SECTION 8.** 941.2915 of the statutes is created to read:

