

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2014 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 919
Judiciary

(Delegate K. Kelly, *et al.*)

Public Safety - Transport of Weapons on School Property - Retired Law Enforcement Officer

This bill adds retired law enforcement officers in good standing to an exemption applicable to a prohibition against carrying or possessing a deadly weapon on public school property.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill's changes do not materially affect State operations or finances.

Local Effect: None. The bill's changes do not materially affect local operations or finances.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: A person may not carry or possess a firearm, knife, or deadly weapon of any kind on public school property. A violator is guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to maximum penalties of imprisonment for three years and/or a fine of \$1,000. A person who is convicted of carrying or possessing a handgun in violation of this prohibition must be sentenced under the misdemeanor penalty provisions applicable to illegally wearing, carrying, or transporting a handgun.

This prohibition does not apply to:

- a law enforcement officer in the regular course of the officer's duty;
- an off-duty law enforcement officer who is a parent, guardian, or visitor of a student attending a school located on the public school property, provided that (1) the officer is displaying the officer's badge or credential and (2) the weapon carried or possessed by the officer is concealed;
- a person hired by a county board of education specifically for the purpose of guarding public school property;
- a person engaged in organized shooting activity for educational purposes; or
- a person who, with a written invitation from the school principal, displays or engages in a historical demonstration using a weapon or a replica of a weapon for educational purposes.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Baltimore, Charles, and Frederick counties; cities of Frederick and Havre de Grace; Maryland State Department of Education; Department of State Police; Department of Legislative Services

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mm/lgc

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