

---

By: **Prince George's County Delegation**  
Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2001  
Assigned to: Judiciary

---

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Prince George's County - Weapons-Free School Zone**  
3 **PG 315-01**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from carrying or possessing a firearm in  
5 Prince George's County on real property used for certain school purposes or on a  
6 school vehicle under certain circumstances; establishing certain exceptions to  
7 these provisions; allowing certain maps produced or reproduced by any  
8 municipal or county agency to be used in a prosecution under this Act; requiring  
9 that maps approved under this Act be filed and kept as an official record;  
10 allowing the use of certain other evidence in a prosecution under this Act;  
11 imposing certain penalties; and generally relating to the offense of carrying or  
12 possessing a firearm on school property in Prince George's County.

13 BY adding to  
14 Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments  
15 Section 36A 1/2  
16 Annotated Code of Maryland  
17 (1996 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

18 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
19 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

20 **Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments**

21 36A 1/2.

22 (A) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION, IN PRINCE GEORGE'S  
23 COUNTY A PERSON MAY NOT CARRY OR POSSESS ANY FIREARM:

24 (1) ON REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY OR LEASED TO ANY ELEMENTARY  
25 SCHOOL, SECONDARY SCHOOL, OR BOARD OF EDUCATION, AND USED FOR  
26 ELEMENTARY OR SECONDARY EDUCATION, AS DEFINED UNDER § 1-101 OF THE  
27 EDUCATION ARTICLE, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER:

28 (I) SCHOOL WAS IN SESSION AT THE TIME OF THE OFFENSE; OR

1 (II) THE REAL PROPERTY WAS BEING USED FOR OTHER PURPOSES  
2 BESIDES SCHOOL PURPOSES AT THE TIME OF THE OFFENSE; OR

3 (2) ON A SCHOOL VEHICLE, AS DEFINED UNDER § 11-154 OF THE  
4 TRANSPORTATION ARTICLE.

5 (B) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO:

6 (1) A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER IN THE REGULAR COURSE OF DUTY;

7 (2) AN ON-DUTY SECURITY GUARD HIRED BY THE PRINCE GEORGE'S  
8 COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION OR BY A CONTRACTOR OF THE BOARD SPECIFICALLY  
9 TO GUARD PUBLIC SCHOOL PROPERTY;

10 (3) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO POSSESSES A FIREARM FOR A PROGRAM  
11 APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL OR WHO ENGAGES IN AN ORGANIZED SHOOTING  
12 ACTIVITY FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES;

13 (4) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO LAWFULLY TRANSPORTS AN UNLOADED  
14 FIREARM IN A MOTOR VEHICLE, IF THE FIREARM IS IN A LOCKED CONTAINER OR A  
15 LOCKED FIREARMS RACK THAT IS ON THE MOTOR VEHICLE;

16 (5) AN INDIVIDUAL WITH AN UNLOADED FIREARM WHO IS AUTHORIZED  
17 BY A SCHOOL TO GAIN ACCESS TO LAND OPEN TO HUNTING; OR

18 (6) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO:

19 (I) HOLDS A PERMIT TO CARRY A HANDGUN; AND

20 (II) NOTIFIES AN OFFICIAL OF THE SCHOOL BEFORE OR  
21 IMMEDIATELY ON ENTRY IN THE AREA DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (A)(1) OF THIS  
22 SECTION, UNLESS ENTRY IN THE AREA IS SOLELY FOR PASSAGE THROUGH THE  
23 AREA.

24 (C) A PERSON WHO IS CONVICTED OF VIOLATING THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF  
25 A MISDEMEANOR AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING PENALTIES:

26 (1) FOR A FIRST OFFENSE, IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 10 YEARS  
27 OR A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$10,000 OR BOTH; OR

28 (2) FOR A SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE, IMPRISONMENT NOT  
29 EXCEEDING 15 YEARS OR A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$30,000 OR BOTH.

30 (D) (1) IN A PROSECUTION UNDER THIS SECTION, A MAP THAT IS PRODUCED  
31 OR REPRODUCED BY ANY MUNICIPAL OR COUNTY AGENCY FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
32 DEPICTING THE LOCATION AND BOUNDARIES OF THE AREA THAT IS ON THE  
33 PROPERTY OF A PUBLIC OR NONPUBLIC ELEMENTARY OR SECONDARY SCHOOL THAT  
34 IS USED FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES, OR A TRUE COPY OF THE MAP, SHALL BE  
35 ADMISSIBLE AND SHALL CONSTITUTE PRIMA FACIE EVIDENCE OF THE LOCATION  
36 AND BOUNDARIES OF THE AREA IF:

1 (I) THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL OR THE GOVERNING  
2 BODY OF THE MUNICIPALITY HAS APPROVED THE MAP AS AN OFFICIAL RECORD OF  
3 THE LOCATION AND BOUNDARIES OF THE AREA; AND

4 (II) THE MAP IS CERTIFIED AS A TRUE COPY BY THE CUSTODIAN OF  
5 THE MAP.

6 (2) A MAP APPROVED UNDER THIS SECTION MAY BE REVISED BY THE  
7 PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL OR THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE  
8 MUNICIPALITY.

9 (3) THE ORIGINAL OF EVERY MAP APPROVED OR REVISED UNDER THIS  
10 SECTION, OR A TRUE COPY, SHALL BE FILED WITH THE MUNICIPALITY OR COUNTY  
11 AND SHALL BE MAINTAINED AS AN OFFICIAL RECORD OF THE MUNICIPALITY OR  
12 COUNTY.

13 (4) THIS SECTION DOES NOT PRECLUDE THE USE OR ADMISSIBILITY OF  
14 A MAP OR DIAGRAM OTHER THAN THE ONE THAT HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE  
15 MUNICIPALITY OR COUNTY.

16 (5) THIS SECTION DOES NOT PRECLUDE THE PROSECUTION FROM  
17 INTRODUCING OR RELYING UPON ANY OTHER EVIDENCE OR TESTIMONY TO  
18 ESTABLISH ANY ELEMENT OF THE OFFENSE SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS  
19 SECTION.

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take  
21 effect October 1, 2001.