

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2023

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HOUSE BILL 545

Short Title: Willful or Wanton Gun Discharge/Expand Scope. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Miller.

*For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.*

Referred to: Judiciary 2, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

April 3, 2023

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO REVISE THE LAW PROHIBITING WILLFUL OR WANTON DISCHARGE OF  
3 CERTAIN BARRELED WEAPONS OR FIREARMS.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 SECTION 1. G.S. 14-34.1 reads as rewritten:

6 "**§ 14-34.1. Discharging Willful or wanton discharge of certain barreled weapons or a**  
7 **firearm into occupied property, firearm.**

8 (a) ~~Any~~ A person who willfully or wantonly discharges or attempts to discharge any  
9 firearm or barreled weapon capable of discharging shot, bullets, pellets, or other missiles at a  
10 muzzle velocity of at least 600 feet per second into any building, structure, vehicle, aircraft,  
11 watercraft, or other conveyance, device, equipment, erection, or enclosure while it is occupied is  
12 guilty of a Class E felony.

13 (a1) Unless covered under some provision of law providing greater punishment, a person  
14 who willfully or wantonly discharges a weapon described in subsection (a) of this section in or  
15 on the property of another without the property owner's permission, on a public street or highway,  
16 or at any public place where persons other than the person who discharged the weapon are present  
17 is guilty of a Class E felony.

18 (b) A person who willfully or wantonly discharges a weapon described in subsection (a)  
19 of this section into an occupied dwelling or into any occupied vehicle, aircraft, watercraft, or  
20 other conveyance that is in operation is guilty of a Class D felony.

21 (c) If a person violates this section and the violation results in serious bodily injury to  
22 any person, the person is guilty of a Class C felony."

23 SECTION 2. This act becomes effective December 1, 2023, and applies to offenses  
24 committed on or after that date.

