

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2023**

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SENATE BILL 343

Short Title: Protect the Children in Private Schools. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Jarvis, Britt, and B. Newton (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

March 22, 2023

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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2 AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT CERTAIN EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS AT PRIVATE
3 SCHOOLS MAY CARRY CERTAIN WEAPONS ON EDUCATIONAL PROPERTY
4 WHEN AUTHORIZED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES OR SCHOOL
5 ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR AND TO PROVIDE THAT A PERSON MAY CARRY
6 A CONCEALED HANDGUN ON EDUCATIONAL PROPERTY THAT IS THE
7 LOCATION OF BOTH A SCHOOL AND A PLACE OF RELIGIOUS WORSHIP WHEN
8 ATTENDING WORSHIP SERVICES AND OTHER SACERDOTAL FUNCTIONS AT
9 THE PLACE OF RELIGIOUS WORSHIP.

10 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

11 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 14-269.2(a) is amended by adding the following new subdivisions
12 to read:

13 "(1c) School administrative director. – Any individual authorized by the school
14 board of trustees to act on behalf of the private school.

15 "(1d) School board of trustees. – The governing body of any private school. For
16 purposes of parochial schools, the school board of trustees may be the board
17 of deacons, the board of elders, or any other designated board which oversees
18 the general affairs of the church, synagogue, temple, or other place of religious
19 worship that is affiliated with the private school."

20 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 14-269.2(g) is amended by adding the following new subdivisions
21 to read:

22 "(8) The person is an employee or volunteer of a private school who meets all of
23 the following criteria:

24 a. The person has written authorization from the school board of trustees
25 or the school administrative director to possess and carry a firearm or
26 stun gun on the educational property that is owned, used, or operated
27 by the private school.

28 b. The weapon is a firearm or a stun gun.

29 c. The person has a concealed handgun permit issued in accordance with
30 Article 54B of this Chapter or is considered valid under
31 G.S. 14-415.24.

32 d. The person has successfully completed under the direct supervision of
33 a certified National Rifle Association instructor or the equivalent a
34 minimum of eight hours of courses on, or relating to, gun safety and
35 the appropriate use of firearms that is in addition to the firearms



- 1 training and safety course required for a concealed handgun permit
- 2 under G.S. 14-415.12(a)(4). This is an annual training requirement.
- 3 e. The private school adopts and maintains written standard operating
- 4 procedures regarding the possession and carrying of the weapons
- 5 listed in this subdivision on the educational property and distributes to
- 6 the parents of students attending the private school copies of the
- 7 written standard operating procedures on an annual basis.
- 8 f. The person is on the premises of the educational property that is
- 9 owned, used, or operated by the private school at which the person is
- 10 an employee or volunteer.
- 11 (9) A person in a place of religious worship that is located on educational property
- 12 owned, used, or operated by the membership of the place of religious worship
- 13 while the person is attending worship services, funeral services, wedding
- 14 ceremonies, Christenings, religious fellowships, and any other sacerdotal
- 15 functions at the place of religious worship. For purposes of this subdivision,
- 16 the term "place of religious worship" includes any church, chapel,
- 17 meetinghouse, synagogue, temple, longhouse, mosque, or other building that
- 18 is regularly used and clearly identifiable as a place for religious worship. For
- 19 purposes of this subdivision, the term "attending" includes ingress and egress
- 20 between the place of religious worship and the designated parking area for the
- 21 place of religious worship."

22 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective December 1, 2023, and applies to offenses
23 committed on or after that date.