

2022 -- H 7889

LC004828

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

A N A C T

RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES - WEAPONS

Introduced By: Representative Brandon C. Potter

Date Introduced: March 04, 2022

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 11-47-62 of the General Laws in Chapter 11-47 entitled "Weapons"  
2 is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 ~~11-47-62. Rifle ranges -- Immunity from prosecution -- Criminal or civil. Gun ranges~~  
4 ~~operation -- Immunity from prosecution -- Criminal or civil.~~

5 (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law, rule or regulation to the  
6 contrary, except as prohibited pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, it shall be lawful for an  
7 owner of a rifle, pistol, silhouette, archery, skeet, trap, black powder, or other similar range to  
8 operate the range in excess of the applicable noise or noise pollution, law, ordinance or bylaw,  
9 provided the owner of the range continues to be in compliance with any applicable noise control  
10 law, ordinance or bylaws in existence at the time of the construction of the range. No owner shall  
11 be liable in any action for nuisance, and no court shall enjoin the use or operation of the range on  
12 the basis of noise or noise pollution, provided the owner continues to be in compliance with any  
13 noise control law, ordinance or bylaws in effect at the time of the construction of the range.

14 (b) No standards in rules adopted by any state, city or town agency for limiting levels of  
15 noise in terms of decibel level which may occur in the outdoor atmosphere shall apply to the ranges  
16 exempted from liability under the provisions of this section.

17 (c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize or permit an owner of a rifle,  
18 pistol, silhouette, archery, skeet, trap, black powder, or other similar range to change the use and/or  
19 type of the range, or to expand the use and/or type of the range.

1           (d) Effective January 1, 2023, no outdoor gun range shall be used for firing, discharging or  
2 shooting firearms within a one mile circumference or closer of any school kindergarten through  
3 grade twelve (K-12) and all grounds and sports fields connected thereto.

4           SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on January 1, 2023.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
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1           This act would prohibit the operation of an outdoor gun range within one mile or closer of  
2 any kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12) schools.

3           This act would take effect on January 1, 2023.

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