



SENATE BILL 280: Private School Security Act.

2025-2026 General Assembly

Committee:	Senate Judiciary. If favorable, re-refer to Rules and Operations of the Senate	Date:	April 30, 2025
Introduced by:	Sens. Jarvis, B. Newton, Overcash	Prepared by:	Robert Ryan
Analysis of:	First Edition		Committee Counsel

OVERVIEW: *Senate Bill 280 would create two new exceptions to the prohibition on carrying weapons on educational property, subject to certain conditions.*

CURRENT LAW: G.S. 14-269.2 prohibits weapons on the educational property of schools, with certain exceptions. Schools are defined to include public schools, private schools, community colleges, colleges, and universities. Educational property consists of any school building or bus, school campus, grounds, recreational area, athletic field, or other property owned, used, or operated by any board of education or school board of trustees, or directors for the administration of any school. It is a Class I felony to possess or carry any gun on educational property.

G.S. 14-269.2(k1) contains an exception to the prohibition of weapons on educational property of schools. An individual who has a valid concealed handgun permit, or who is exempt from obtaining that permit, can carry a handgun in a place of religious worship located on privately-owned educational property if all of the following conditions apply:

- The property is not owned by a local board of education or county commission.
- The property is not a public or private institution of higher education.
- The property is not posted with a notice prohibiting carrying a concealed handgun on the premises.
- The handgun is only possessed and carried on the property outside of school operating hours. School operating hours are defined as any time a curricular or extracurricular activity takes place on the premises, any time when the premises are used for educational, instructional, or school-sponsored activities, and any time the premises are being used for programs for minors by entities not affiliated with the religious institution.

BILL ANALYSIS: The bill would modify G.S. 14-269.2 by providing for two new exceptions to the general prohibition of carrying weapons on school property.

First, a new exception would be created that would allow a person who is an employee or volunteer of a private school to carry weapons on school property subject to the following restrictions:

- The person has written authorization from the school board of trustees or the school administrative director to carry the weapon.
- The weapon is a firearm or stun gun.
- The person has a concealed handgun permit.
- The person has completed an approved training course.

Kara McCraw
Director



Legislative Analysis
Division
919-733-2578

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- The school adopts and maintains written standard operating procedures regarding this topic and distributes copies to parents of students attending the school.
- The person is on the premises of the educational property owned, used, or operated by the private school at which the person is an employee or volunteer.

Second, a new exception would be created for a person who met the following conditions: "A person in a place of religious worship that is located on educational property owned, used, or operated by the membership of the place of religious worship while the person is attending worship services, funeral services, wedding ceremonies, Christenings, religious fellowships, and any other sacerdotal functions at the place of religious worship."

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act would become effective December 1, 2025, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.