



HOUSE BILL 481: Firearm Disposal/UNC Campus Police.

2021-2022 General Assembly

Committee: Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate	Date: June 29, 2021
Introduced by: Reps. C. Smith, Faircloth, Miller	Prepared by: Robert Ryan*
Analysis of: Third Edition	Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 481 would allow all State entities operating under the three branches of government and the on-campus police departments of constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina to dispose of surplus weapons with a federally licensed firearm dealer.*

CURRENT LAW: G.S. 143-63.1 requires that most surplus firearms possessed by State agencies be sold through the Department of Administration. Sales are limited to county or local governmental units or State law-enforcement agencies and may only be for law enforcement purposes. Surplus firearms are destroyed if not sold within one year.

There is an exception for certain State law enforcement agencies to this requirement, however, authorizing the sale or disposal of surplus firearms from those agencies to federally licensed firearms dealers in accordance with Department of Administration regulations. The exception applies to the State Highway Patrol, both the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice and the Alcohol Law Enforcement Division of the Department of Safety, and the State Bureau of Investigation.

Constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina may organize on-campus police under Chapter 74G (Campus Police Act) as a campus police agency or under G.S. 116-40.5 as a campus law enforcement agency.

BILL ANALYSIS: The bill would allow (i) all State entities operating under the three branch of government, and (ii) campus polices forces and campus law enforcement agencies of constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina, to sell or dispose of surplus firearms to federally licensed firearm dealers.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act is effective when it becomes law.

**Kara McCraw, Staff Attorney, substantially contributed to this summary.*

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