



HOUSE BILL 193: Firearm Law Revisions.

**This Bill Analysis
reflects the contents
of the bill as it was
presented in
committee.**

2025-2026 General Assembly

Committee:	Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate	Date:	June 23, 2025
Introduced by:	Reps. McNeely, Pyrtle, Miller, Carver	Prepared by:	Robert Ryan
Analysis of:	Third Edition		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 193 does the following:*

- *Create two new exceptions to the prohibition on carrying weapons on educational property, subject to certain conditions.*
- *Add local elected officers to offenses for assault or threats against executive, legislative, or court officers.*
- *Increase the penalties for assaulting or threatening an executive, legislative, court or local elected officer.*
- *Require pretrial release conditions to be determined by a judge for any person charged with assaulting or threatening an executive, legislative, court, local elected, or election officer.*
- *Provide additional protections from restrictions on use for relocated law enforcement shooting ranges.*

CURRENT LAW AND BILL ANALYSIS:

Section 1-3

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

Kara McCraw
Director



Legislative Analysis
Division
919-733-2578

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school-sponsored activities, and any time the premises are being used for programs for minors by entities not affiliated with the religious institution.

Sections 1-3 would modify G.S. 14-269.2 by providing 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.
- 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, G.S. 14-269.2(k1) would be modified by adding a new provision that would allow a person to carry a handgun on educational property "At any time, in a building that is a place of religious worship while the person is attending worship services, funeral services, wedding ceremonies, Christenings, religious fellowships, and any other sacerdotal functions in the building." The other restrictions contained in G.S. 14-269.2(k1), outlined above, would remain in place. These include the restriction that the person would have to have a concealed carry permit and the restriction that the property is not posted with a notice prohibiting carrying a handgun on the premises.

Sections 4-6

Section 4 would amend Article 5A of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes to include local elected officers in offenses prohibiting assaulting or threatening executive, legislative, or court officers.

The term "local elected officer" would include any elected officer of a political subdivision of this State.

This section would also increase the penalties for those offenses as follows:

- Assault on an executive, legislative, court, or local elected officer:
 - Generally - increased from a Class I felony to a **Class H felony**.
 - With use of a deadly weapon – increased from Class F felony to **Class E felony**.
 - Inflicting serious bodily injury – increased from Class E felony to **Class D felony**.
- Threat to inflict serious bodily injury or death against executive, legislative, court, or local elected officer - increased from Class I felony to **Class H felony**.

Section 5 would amend G.S. 163-275(11) which prohibits threatening election officials in connection with an election to include threats made because of the election official's duties.

Section 6 enacts a new G.S. 15A-534.9 which does the following:

- Establishes additional requirements for bail and pretrial release conditions for a defendant charged with assaulting or threatening an executive, legislative, court, or local elected officer or

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threatening an election officer which are similar to the conditions placed on defendants charged with domestic violence.

Requires that a judge determine the conditions of pretrial release for a defendant charged with rioting or looting, unless 48 hours have elapsed, at which time a magistrate may determine the conditions.

Section 7

Article 53C of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes provides protections to shooting ranges from actions related to noise, nuisance, and other regulations that are adopted after the establishment of the range unless there is a substantial change in use of the range.

Section 7 would add the following additional protections for shooting ranges that have been relocated and are operated by a State, federal, or local law enforcement agency, or by a law enforcement organization, if the range operated for at least 25 years in the same location, the new location is within the same county, and there has been no substantial change in use:

- Apply the protections of G.S. 14-409.46 to the range based on the date the range began operation in the original location.
- Provide that a local government may not prohibit the range from conducting night operations for law enforcement training purposes if the range provides at least 48 hours' notice to the local government of the date and time the night operations will be conducted.
- Provide that a local government may not require a set back of more than 100 feet.

EFFECTIVE DATE: