

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 693

BY REPRESENTATIVE JIMMY HARRIS

WEAPONS/FIREARMS: Expands firearm free zones

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 14:95.2(A), (B)(3) and (4) and (D) and to enact R.S.  
3 14:95.2(B)(5), relative to carrying a firearm or dangerous weapon on school  
4 property; to expand the prohibition to include public parks, playgrounds, and  
5 recreational facilities; to provide definitions; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 14:95.2(A), (B)(3) and (4) and (D) are hereby amended and  
8 reenacted and R.S. 14:95.2(B)(5) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §95.2. Carrying a firearm or dangerous weapon by a student or nonstudent on  
10 school property, at school-sponsored functions, on property used as a public  
11 park, playground, or recreational facility, or in a firearm-free zone

12 A. Carrying a firearm, or dangerous weapon as defined in R.S. 14:2, by a  
13 student or nonstudent on school property, at a school sponsored function, on property  
14 used as a public park, playground, recreational facility, or in a firearm-free zone is  
15 unlawful and shall be defined as possession of any firearm or dangerous weapon, on  
16 one's person, at any time while on a school campus, on school transportation, or at  
17 any school sponsored function in a specific designated area including but not limited  
18 to athletic competitions, dances, parties, or any extracurricular activities, or within  
19 one thousand feet of any school campus.

1 B. For purposes of this Section, the following words have the following  
2 meanings:

3 \* \* \*

4 (3) "Public park, playground, or recreational facility" means any building or  
5 area owned by the state or by a political subdivision that is open to the public and  
6 used or operated as a park, playground, or recreational facility and shall include all  
7 parks and recreational areas administered by the office of state parks in the  
8 Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.

9 ~~(3)~~(4) "School" means any elementary, secondary, high school, vocational-  
10 technical school, college, or university in this state.

11 ~~(4)~~(5) "School bus" means any motor bus being used to transport children  
12 to and from school or in connection with school activities.

13 \* \* \*

14 D.(1) Whoever commits the crime of carrying a firearm, or a dangerous  
15 weapon as defined in R.S. 14:2, by a student or nonstudent on school property, at a  
16 school-sponsored function, on property used as a public park, playground,  
17 recreational facility, or in a firearm-free zone shall be imprisoned at hard labor for  
18 not more than five years.

19 (2) Whoever commits the crime of carrying a firearm, or a dangerous  
20 weapon as defined in R.S. 14:2, on school property, on property used as a public  
21 park, playground, or recreational facility, or in a firearm-free zone with the firearm  
22 or dangerous weapon being used in the commission of a crime of violence as defined  
23 in R.S. 14:2(B) on school property, on property used as a public park, playground,  
24 or recreational facility, or in a firearm-free zone, shall be fined not more than two  
25 thousand dollars, or imprisoned, with or without hard labor, for not less than one  
26 year nor more than five years, or both. Any sentence issued pursuant to the  
27 provisions of this Paragraph and any sentence issued pursuant to a violation of a  
28 crime of violence as defined in R.S. 14:2(B) shall be served consecutively. Upon  
29 commitment to the Department of Public Safety and Corrections after conviction for

1 a crime committed ~~on school property, at a school-sponsored function or in a~~  
2 ~~firearm-free zone~~ in violation of this Section, the department shall have the offender  
3 evaluated through appropriate examinations or tests conducted under the supervision  
4 of the department. Such evaluation shall be made within thirty days of the order of  
5 commitment.

6 \* \* \*

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 693 Original

2016 Regular Session

Jimmy Harris

**Abstract:** Adds parks, playgrounds and recreational facilities to the prohibition of carrying firearms on school property.

Present law provides that carrying a firearm or dangerous weapon by a student or nonstudent on school property, at a school sponsored function, or in a firearm-free zone is unlawful.

Proposed law retains present law and adds property used as a public park, playground, or recreational facility to the prohibition.

Proposed law defines "public park, playground, or recreational facility" as any building or area owned by the state or by a political subdivision that is open to the public and used or operated as a park, playground, or recreational facility and shall include all parks and recreational areas administered by the office of state parks in the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.

(Amends R.S. 14:95.2(A), (B)(3) and (4) and (D); Adds R.S. 14:95.2(B)(5))