

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2021

H

1

HOUSE BILL 579

Short Title: School Self-Defense Act. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Pittman, Brody, and Kidwell (Primary Sponsors).
For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.

Referred to: Education - K-12, if favorable, Judiciary 3, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

April 19, 2021

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE FACULTY OR STAFF OF A
3 SCHOOL TO CARRY A HANDGUN ON THE SCHOOL GROUNDS TO RESPOND TO
4 ACTS OF VIOLENCE OR AN IMMINENT THREAT OF VIOLENCE.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** This act shall be known as "The School Self-Defense Act."

7 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 14-269.2 reads as rewritten:

8 **"§ 14-269.2. Weapons on campus or other educational property.**

9 (a) The following definitions apply to this section:

10 ...

11 (3a) Volunteer school faculty guardian. – A person who (i) is a member of the
12 faculty or staff of a school, (ii) is a full-time or part-time employee, and (iii)
13 possesses a valid concealed handgun permit issued to the person in accordance
14 with Article 54B of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes.

15 (3b) Volunteer school safety resource officer. – A person who volunteers as a
16 school safety resource officer as provided by G.S. 162-26 or
17 G.S. 160A-288.4.

18 ...

19 (g) This section shall not apply to any of the following:

20 ...

21 (8) Subject to the condition set forth in subsection (m) of this section, a volunteer
22 school faculty guardian, while on the grounds of the school the person is
23 employed by or assigned to, who meets all of the following requirements:

24 a. Successfully completes 16 hours of active shooter training in the
25 School Faculty Guardian program developed and administered by the
26 North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards
27 Commission pursuant to G.S. 17C-6(a)(21).

28 b. Submits to the chief administrator of the school on an annual basis
29 written notice that the person continues to possess a valid concealed
30 handgun permit issued to the person in accordance with Article 54B
31 of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes.

32 c. Provides evidence satisfactory to the chief administrator of the school
33 on an annual basis that the person has demonstrated proficiency with
34 the type of handgun and handgun retention system used.



* H 5 7 9 - V - 1 *

- 1 d. When on school grounds, only possesses the handgun during the
- 2 conduct of his or her duties.
- 3 e. Except when responding to an act of violence or an imminent threat of
- 4 violence at the school, keeps the handgun concealed at all times while
- 5 on the school grounds. For purposes of this subdivision, the term
- 6 "violence" means physical injury that a reasonable person would
- 7 conclude could lead to permanent injury or death.
- 8 f. Submits to annual drug testing.

9 ...

10 (m) The governing body or entity of a school may opt out of the authority granted under

11 subdivision (8) of subsection (g) of this section and prohibit a person from possessing a handgun

12 pursuant to the authority in subdivision (8) of subsection (g) of this section on the grounds of the

13 school or schools under its control."

14 **SECTION 3.** G.S. 17C-6(a) reads as rewritten:

15 (a) In addition to powers conferred upon the Commission elsewhere in this Chapter, the

16 Commission shall have the following powers, which shall be enforceable through its rules and

17 regulations, certification procedures, or the provisions of G.S. 17C-10:

- 18 ...
- 19 (21) Establish and administer the School Faculty Guardian program, which
- 20 provides active shooter training to volunteer school faculty guardians, as
- 21 defined under G.S. 14-269.2."

22 **SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law.