

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Committee on General Laws

The bill changes the laws regarding public safety. In its main provisions, the bill:

(1) Moves the authority to regulate corporate security advisors from the Board of Police Commissioners to the Department of Public Safety;

(2) Specifies that public school students must not be subject to any civil or criminal penalties, fines, or discipline of any nature for simulating a weapon while playing. Simulating a weapon while playing includes, but is not limited to:

(a) Brandishing a food item;

(b) Possessing a toy firearm less than two inches in length;

(c) Using the hand or fingers to simulate a weapon;

(d) Vocalizing an imaginary weapon;

(e) Using a pen, pencil, or other writing instrument to simulate a weapon; or

(f) Drawing or possessing an image of a weapon;

(3) Specifies that public school students may wear clothing and accessories depicting a weapon or express opinions regarding the right to bear arms or the right of self defense unless the actions or speech are properly restricted by a viewpoint-neutral school policy applying equally to all students. Nothing in these provisions can prohibit civil or criminal penalties, fines, or discipline imposed for acts of simulating a weapon that cause bodily harm to another individual, disrupt the student learning environment, or constitute a serious threat which reasonably places another person in fear of bodily harm;

(4) Specifies that an individual who is occupying private property under the authority of the property owner is permitted to use deadly force in specified situations;

(5) Changes the current requirement that an applicant for a concealed carry permit perform a physical demonstration of his or her ability to safely load and unload a revolver and a semiautomatic pistol, a live firing exercise with both types of firearms, and a live firing test with both firearms to require the

applicant to demonstrate his or her ability of these activities with either of the firearms; and

(6) Specifies that a person commits the crime of unlawful use of weapons if he or she possesses a firearm while also knowingly in illegal possession of a controlled substance that is sufficient for a felony violation under Section 195.202, RSMo.

The provisions regarding corporate security advisors and the crime of unlawful use of weapons while a person is also knowingly in illegal possession of a controlled substance contain an emergency clause.