

2014 -- H 7582

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

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A N A C T

RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES - WEAPONS

Introduced By: Representatives Diaz, Slater, Almeida, Williams, and Ferri

Date Introduced: February 26, 2014

Referred To: House Judiciary

(Attorney General)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 11-47-33 of the General Laws in Chapter 11-47 entitled "Weapons"  
2 is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **11-47-33. Possession of firearms by minors.** -- (a) It shall be unlawful within this state  
4 for any person under eighteen (18) years of age to possess and use any firearm. ~~unless he or she~~  
5 ~~shall hold a permit as provided in section 11-47-34, and unless the person is in the presence of a~~  
6 ~~parent or guardian or supervising adult at any regular and recognized camp or rifle range~~  
7 ~~approved by the Rhode Island state police or by the chief of police of the city or town in which~~  
8 ~~the camp or rifle range is located; provided, that this provision shall not apply to minors engaged~~  
9 ~~in lawful hunting activity under the supervision of a parent or guardian or qualified adult, minors~~  
10 ~~participating in Reserve Officer Training Corps programs, ceremonial parade activities,~~  
11 ~~competitive and target shooting, participants in state militia activities and minors participating in~~  
12 ~~a basic firearms education program; provided, further, that a person under eighteen (18) years of~~  
13 ~~age may carry a firearm, unloaded, in a suitable case to and from his or her home and the camp or~~  
14 ~~range and from the camp or range to other camp or range when accompanied by a parent,~~  
15 ~~guardian or supervising adult.~~

16 (b) This provision shall not apply to any persons that:

17 (1) Are in the presence of a parent or guardian or qualified adult at any regular and  
18 recognized rifle range;

19 (2) Are engaged in lawful hunting activity as provided in § 20-13-5;

1           (3) Are participating in competitive or target shooting when accompanied by a parent,  
2 guardian or qualified adult; or

3           (4) Are participating in Reserve Officer Training Corps programs, ceremonial parade  
4 activities, participants in state militia activities, or minors participating in a basic firearms  
5 education program.

6           (c) When accompanied by a parent, guardian or qualified adult, a person under eighteen  
7 (18) years of age may transport a firearm, unloaded and encased in a hard-sided, locked case to  
8 and from his or her home and the range, and from the range to another range; or to and from his  
9 or her home when the firearm is being lawfully purchased or repaired.

10           ~~(b)~~(d) For purposes of this section only, "qualified adult" means any person twenty-one  
11 (21) years of age or older and permitted by law to possess and use ~~the~~ a firearm.

12           SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
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RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES - WEAPONS

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1           This act would provide for limited exceptions to the provisions of the general laws  
2 prohibiting the possession of a firearm by minors while a minor is in the presence of a qualified  
3 adult or participating in certain competitive or ceremonial events.

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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