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# STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

#### IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

#### **JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016**

#### AN ACT

### RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES - WEAPONS - STUN-GUNS

Introduced By: Representatives Lima, and Fellela

Date Introduced: May 26, 2016

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

SECTION 1. Sections 11-47-8 and 11-47-42 of the General Laws in Chapter 11-47

2 entitled "Weapons" are hereby amended to read as follows:

11-47-8. License or permit required for carrying pistol. -- Possession of machine

gun. -- License or permit required for carrying pistol or stun-gun. -- Possession of machine

5 **gun. --** (a) No person shall, without a license or permit issued as provided in §§ 11-47-11, 11-47-

6 12 and 11-47-18, carry a pistol, or revolver, or stun-gun in any vehicle or conveyance or on or

about his or her person whether visible or concealed, except in his or her dwelling house or place

of business or on land possessed by him or her or as provided in §§ 11-47-9 and 11-47-10. The provisions of these sections shall not apply to any person who is the holder of a valid license or

permit issued by the licensing authority of another state, or territory of the United States, or

political subdivision of the state or territory, allowing him or her to carry a pistol or revolver in

any vehicle or conveyance or on or about his or her person whether visible or concealed, provided

the person is merely transporting the firearm through the state in a vehicle or other conveyance

without any intent on the part of the person to detain him or herself or remain within the state of

Rhode Island. No person shall manufacture, sell, purchase, or possess a machine gun except as

otherwise provided in this chapter. Every person violating the provision of this section shall, upon

conviction, be punished by imprisonment for not less than one nor more than ten (10) years, or by

a fine up to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), or both, and except for a first conviction under this

section shall not be afforded the provisions of suspension or deferment of sentence, nor a

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2	(b) No person shall have in his or her possession or under his or her control any sawed-
3	off shotgun or sawed-off rifle as defined in § 11-47-2. Any person convicted of violating this
4	subsection shall be punished by imprisonment for up to ten (10) years, or by a fine of up to five
5	thousand dollars (\$5,000), or both.

- (c) No person shall have in his or her possession or under his or her control any firearm while the person delivers, possesses with intent to deliver, or manufactures a controlled substance. Any person convicted of violating this subsection shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than two (2) years nor more than twenty (20) years, and the sentence shall be consecutive to any sentence the person may receive for the delivery, possession with intent to deliver, or the manufacture of the controlled substance. It shall not be a defense to a violation of this subsection that a person has a license or permit to carry or possess a firearm.
- 11-47-42. Weapons other than firearms prohibited. -- (a) (1) No person shall carry or possess or attempt to use against another any instrument or weapon of the kind commonly known as a blackjack, slingshot, billy, sandclub, sandbag, metal knuckles, slap glove, bludgeon, stungun, or the so called "Kung-Fu" weapons.
  - (2) No person shall with intent to use unlawfully against another, carry or possess a crossbow, dagger, dirk, stiletto, sword-in-cane, bowie knife, or other similar weapon designed to cut and stab another.
  - (3) No person shall wear or carry concealed upon his person, any of the abovementioned instruments or weapons, or any razor, or knife of any description having a blade of more than three (3) inches in length measuring from the end of the handle where the blade is attached to the end of the blade, or other weapon of like kind or description.

Any person violating the provisions of these subsections shall be punished by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or both, and the weapon so found shall be confiscated.

Any person violating the provisions of these subsections while he or she is incarcerated within the confines of the adult correctional institutions shall be punished by a fine of not less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) nor more than three thousand dollars (\$3,000), or by imprisonment for not less than one year nor more than five (5) years, or both, and the weapon so found shall be confiscated.

(b) No person shall sell to a person under eighteen (18) years of age, without the written authorization of the minor's parent or legal guardian, any stink bomb, blackjack, slingshot, bill, sandclub, sandbag, metal knuckles, slap glove, bludgeon, stungun, paint ball gun, so called

"kung-fu" weapons, dagger, dirk, stiletto, sword-in-cane, bowie knife, razor, or knife of any description having a blade of more than three inches (3") in length as described in subsection (a) of this section, or any multi-pronged star with sharpened edges designed to be used as a weapon and commonly known as a Chinese throwing star, except that an individual who is actually engaged in the instruction of martial arts and licensed under § 5-43-1 may carry and possess any multi-pronged star with sharpened edges for the sole purpose of instructional use. Any person violating the provisions of this subsection shall be punished by a fine of not less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) nor more than three thousand dollars (\$3,000), or by imprisonment for not less than one year nor more than five (5) years, or both, and the weapons so found shall be confiscated.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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## EXPLANATION

## BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF

## AN ACT

## RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES - WEAPONS - STUN-GUNS

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This act would permit the possession of a stun-gun under the same license conditions
which apply to possession of a pistol.

This act would take effect upon passage.

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