

HB0104S03 compared with HB0104S02

~~{Omitted text}~~ shows text that was in HB0104S02 but was omitted in HB0104S03
inserted text shows text that was not in HB0104S02 but was inserted into HB0104S03

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Firearm Safety in Schools Amendments

2025 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Rex P. Shipp

Senate Sponsor:

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill addresses firearm safety instruction in public schools.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- defines terms;
- requires the State Board of Education to establish minimum standards for firearm safety instruction in public schools;

▸ requires a local education agency to provide firearm safety instruction to students ~~{ according to certain curricula; and }~~ ;

▸ provides guidelines on how a local education agency may provide the firearm safety instruction; and

▸ requires that individuals providing instruction with an actual firearm have certain authority to possess a firearm.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

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19 This bill provides a special effective date.

21 ENACTS:

22 **53E-4-207**, Utah Code Annotated 1953, Utah Code Annotated 1953

23

24 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

25 Section 1. Section 1 is enacted to read:

26 **53E-4-207. Firearm safety minimum standards and instruction.**

26 (1) As used in this section:

27 (a) "Firearm" means the same as that term is defined in Section 76-10-501.

28 (b) "On or about school premises" means the same as that term is defined in Section 76-10-505.5.

30 (2) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the state board shall make rules that establish minimum standards for firearm safety instruction as described in Subsection (4){-}, including:

34 (a) understanding that a firearm is not a toy;

35 (b) recognizing that a firearm can be dangerous and that special rules exist to ensure safety;

37 (c) knowing to stop and leave a firearm alone when encountering a firearm;

38 (d) educating others about firearm safety;

39 (e) telling an adult upon finding or observing a firearm; and

40 (f) reporting threats involving a firearm with the appropriate authorities.

33 (3) An LEA shall, in accordance with the minimum standards established under Subsection (2), provide an instructional session on firearm safety to {all students in the} each grade {levels} level as described in Subsection (4).

36 (4) An LEA shall present firearm safety instruction:

37 (a) to {every student} each grade level, once per school year, from kindergarten through grade 6;

38 (b) to {every} a student, at least once, while the student is attending middle school {and at least once while the student is attending-} or high school;

40 (c) in a manner that is developmentally appropriate to the grade level receiving the instruction; and

42 (d) emphasizing the best practices and guidelines for the safe handling and storage of a firearm to prevent accidents and ensure personal safety.

44 (5) An LEA providing the instruction described in Subsection (4):

45 (a) may provide the instruction:

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- 46 (i) in a public school using live instruction, a video, or online materials;
47 (ii) with an existing hunter safety course; or
48 (iii) with physical education curriculum; {and}
- 56 (b) may use firearm safety curricula and materials the attorney general's office previously created; and
49 {(b)} (c) shall ensure that any statement regarding a firearm is politically neutral.
50 {(6)} {A school providing the instruction described in Subsection (4) shall create and implement
curricula and activities:}
- 52 {(a) {in accordance with the minimum standards the state board establishes under Subsection (2); and}
}
- 54 {(b) {that provide a thorough explanation of firearm safety and principles including:}
55 {(i) {understanding that a firearm is not a toy:}
56 {(ii) {recognizing that a firearm can be dangerous and that special rules exist to ensure safety:}
58 {(iii) {knowing to stop and leave a firearm alone when encountering a firearm:}
59 {(iv) {educating others about firearm safety:}
60 {(v) {telling an adult upon finding or observing a firearm; and}
61 {(vi) {reporting threats involving a firearm with the appropriate authorities:}
- 62 {(7)} (6) If a firearm safety instruction under this section entails the display or functionality of an actual
firearm on or about school premises, the individual who provides the firearm safety instruction
shall:
- 65 (a) have a concealed carry permit issued under Section 53-5-704;
66 (b) have a temporary concealed permit issued under Section 53-5-705; or
67 (c) be a person exempt from certain weapons laws as described in Subsection 76-10-523(1)(a) through
(f).
- 69 {(8)} (7) An individual providing firearm safety instruction under Subsection (6) is not required to
conceal the firearm during the firearm safety instruction if the individual is otherwise required to
conceal the firearm under another state or federal law while on or about school premises.
- 73 {(9)} (8)
- . (a) A school shall, before providing firearm safety instruction, notify a student's parent or legal guardian
of the instruction and provide details on how to opt out.
- 75 (b) A school shall provide an alternative educational activity to a student whose parent or legal guardian
opts the student out of firearm safety instruction.

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74 Section 2. **Effective date.**

This bill takes effect on July 1, 2025.

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