1	RESTRICTIONS ON WEAPONS -
2	ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS
3	2000 GENERAL SESSION
4	STATE OF UTAH
5	Sponsor: Lane Beattie
6	AN ACT RELATING TO WEAPONS; PROVIDING CROSS REFERENCES TO RESTRICTED
7	AREAS FOR CONCEALED FIREARM PERMIT HOLDERS; PROVIDING DEFINITIONS;
8	AMENDING RESTRICTIONS ON A PERSON, INCLUDING A CONCEALED FIREARM
9	PERMIT HOLDER, ON ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL PREMISES;
10	PRESCRIBING EXCEPTIONS; PROVIDING FOR CONFIDENTIALITY AND
11	NONDISCRIMINATION REGARDING NOTIFICATION; PRESCRIBING PENALTIES; AND
12	MAKING CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.
13	This act affects sections of Utah Code Annotated 1953 as follows:
14	AMENDS:
15	53-5-710, as last amended by Chapter 366, Laws of Utah 1999
16	53A-3-502, as enacted by Chapter 2, Laws of Utah 1988
17	53A-11-904, as last amended by Chapter 74, Laws of Utah 1996
18	76-3-203.2, as last amended by Chapter 289, Laws of Utah 1997
19	76-10-505.5, as last amended by Chapters 10 and 289, Laws of Utah 1997
20	76-10-523, as last amended by Chapters 57 and 144, Laws of Utah 1997
21	Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:
22	Section 1. Section <b>53-5-710</b> is amended to read:
23	53-5-710. Cross-references to concealed firearm permit restrictions.
24	A person with a permit to carry a concealed firearm may not carry a concealed firearm in
25	the following locations:
26	(1) on school premises in violation of Section 75-10-505.5;
27	[(1)] (2) any secure area prescribed in Section 76-10-523.5 in which firearms are

S.B. 161 01-27-00 2:43 PM

28	prohibited and notice of the prohibition posted;
29	[(2)] (3) in any airport secure area as provided in Section 76-10-529;
30	[(3)] (4) in any house of worship or in any private residence where dangerous weapons are
31	prohibited as provided in Section 76-10-530; or
32	[(4)] (5) at an Olympic venue secure area in violation of Section 76-10-531.
33	Section 2. Section <b>53A-3-502</b> is amended to read:
34	53A-3-502. Dangerous materials in the public schools Class B misdemeanor
35	Exceptions.
36	(1) A person who possesses [a weapon, explosive, flammable material, or other] material
37	dangerous to persons or property, other than a dangerous weapon restricted under Section
38	76-10-505.5 or an explosive, chemical, or incendiary device restricted under Section 76-10-306,
39	in a public or private elementary or secondary school, on the grounds of the school, or in those
40	parts of a building, park, or stadium which are being used for an activity sponsored by or through
41	the school is guilty of a class B misdemeanor, unless a higher penalty is prescribed in Title 76,
42	Criminal Code, in which case the penalty provisions of that title control.
43	(2) Subsection (1) does not apply under the following circumstances:
44	(a) possession is approved by the responsible school administrator; or
45	(b) the item or material is present or to be used in connection with a lawful, approved
46	activity and is in the possession or under the control of the person responsible for its possession
47	or use.
48	Section 3. Section <b>53A-11-904</b> is amended to read:
49	53A-11-904. Grounds for suspension or expulsion from a public school.
50	(1) A student may be suspended or expelled from a public school for any of the following
51	reasons:
52	(a) frequent or flagrant willful disobedience, defiance of proper authority, or disruptive
53	behavior, including the use of foul, profane, vulgar, or abusive language;
54	(b) willful destruction or defacing of school property;
55	(c) behavior or threatened behavior which poses an immediate and significant threat to the
56	welfare, safety, or morals of other students or school personnel or to the operation of the school;
57	(d) possession, control, or use of an alcoholic beverage as defined in Section 32A-1-105;
58	or

01-27-00 2:43 PM S.B. 161

(e) behavior proscribed under Subsection (2) which threatens harm or does harm to the school or school property, to a person associated with the school, or property associated with any such person, regardless of where it occurs.

- (2) (a) A student shall be suspended or expelled from a public school for any of the following reasons:
- (i) any serious violation affecting another student or a staff member, or any serious violation occurring in a school building, in or on school property, or in conjunction with any school activity, including the possession, control, or actual or threatened use of a real, look alike, or pretend weapon, explosive, or noxious or flammable material under [Section] Sections 53A-3-502, 76-10-306, or 76-10-505.5, or the sale, control, or distribution of a drug or controlled substance as defined in Section 58-37-2, an imitation controlled substance defined in Section 58-37b-2, or drug paraphernalia as defined in Section 58-37a-3; or
- (ii) the commission of an act involving the use of force or the threatened use of force which if committed by an adult would be a felony or class A misdemeanor.
- (b) A student who commits a violation of Subsection (2)(a) involving a real, look alike, or pretend firearm, explosive, or flammable material shall be expelled from school for a period of not less than one year, unless the district superintendent determines, on a case-by-case basis, that a lesser penalty would be more appropriate.
- (3) A student may be denied admission to a public school on the basis of having been expelled from that or any other school during the preceding 12 months.
- (4) A suspension or expulsion under this section is not subject to the age limitations under Subsection 53A-11-102(1).
  - Section 4. Section **76-3-203.2** is amended to read:
- 76-3-203.2. Definitions -- Use of dangerous weapon in offenses committed on or about school premises -- Enhanced penalties.
  - (1) For purposes of this section:

- (a) "On or about school premises" as used in this section [and Section 76-10-505.5] means any of the following:
  - (i) in a public or private elementary, secondary, or on the grounds of any of those schools;
- 88 (ii) in a public or private vocational school or postsecondary institution or on the grounds 89 of any of those schools or institutions;

S.B. 161 01-27-00 2:43 PM

90 (iii) in those portions of any building, park, stadium, or other structure or grounds which 91 are, at the time of the act, being used for an activity sponsored by or through a school or institution 92 under Subsections (1)(a)(i) and (ii); 93 (iv) in or on the grounds of a preschool or child-care facility; and 94 (v) within 1,000 feet of any structure, facility, or grounds included in Subsections (1)(a)(i), 95 (ii), (iii), and (iv). 96 (b) As used in this section: 97 (i) "Educator" means any person who is employed by a public school district and who is 98 required to hold a certificate issued by the State Board of Education in order to perform duties of 99 employment. 100 (ii) "Within the course of employment" means that an educator is providing services or 101 engaging in conduct required by the educator's employer to perform the duties of employment. 102 (2) Any person who, on or about school premises, commits any offense and uses or 103 threatens to use a dangerous weapon, as defined in Section 76-1-601, in the commission of the 104 offense is subject to an enhanced degree of offense as provided in [Subsection] Subsections (4) 105 and (5). 106 (3) (a) Any person who commits an offense against an educator when the educator is 107 acting within the course of employment is subject to an enhanced degree of offense as provided 108 in [Subsection] Subsections (4) and (5). 109 (b) As used in Subsection (3)(a), "offense" means [an] any offense: 110 (i) under Title 76, Chapter 5, Offenses Against The Person; [and] or 111 [(c) an offense] (ii) under Title 76, Chapter 6, Part 3, Robbery. (4) The enhanced degree of offense for offenses committed under this section are: 113 (a) if the offense is otherwise a class B misdemeanor, it is a class A misdemeanor; 114

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  - (b) if the offense is otherwise a class A misdemeanor, it is a third degree felony;
  - (c) if the offense is otherwise a third degree felony, it is a second degree felony; or
  - (d) if the offense is otherwise a second degree felony, it is a first degree felony.
  - (5) The enhanced penalty for a first degree felony offense of a convicted person:
  - (a) shall be imprisonment for a term of not less than five years and which may be for life, and imposition or execution of the sentence may not be suspended unless the court:
    - (i) finds that the interests of justice would be best served; and

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01-27-00 2:43 PM S.B. 161

121	(ii) states the specific circumstances justifying the disposition on the record; and
122	(b) shall [be] subject the person also to the dangerous weapon enhancement provided in
123	Section 76-3-203 except for an offense committed under Subsection (3) that does not involve a
124	firearm.
125	(6) (a) The prosecuting attorney, or grand jury if an indictment is returned, shall provide
126	notice upon the information or indictment that the defendant is subject to the enhanced degree of
127	offense or penalty under Subsection (4) or (5).
128	(b) The notice shall be in a clause separate from and in addition to the substantive offense
129	charged.
130	[(b)] (c) If the notice is not included initially, the court may subsequently allow the
131	prosecutor to amend the charging documents to include the notice if the court finds:
132	(i) the charging document, including any statement of probable cause, provide notice to
133	the defendant of the allegation he committed the offense on or about school premises[,]; or [if the
134	court finds]
135	(ii) the defendant has not otherwise been substantially prejudiced by the omission.
136	(7) [In] The convicted person may not be subject to the dangerous weapon enhancement
137	in Section 76-3-203:
138	(a) in cases where an offense is enhanced pursuant to Subsection (4)(a), (b), (c), or (d)[-,];
139	or
140	(b) under Subsection (5)(a) for an offense committed under Subsection (2) that does not
141	involve a firearm[, the convicted person shall not be subject to the dangerous weapon enhancement
142	in Section 76-3-203].
143	Section 5. Section <b>76-10-505.5</b> is amended to read:
144	76-10-505.5. Possession of a dangerous weapon or firearm on school premises
145	Penalties Exceptions Concealed firearm provisions.
146	(1) For purposes of this section:
147	(a) "On school premises" means:
148	(i) in a public or private elementary or secondary school building;
149	(ii) the clearly identifiable grounds of the school; or
150	(iii) those parts of any other building, facility, or real property that may be used for other
151	functions but are, at the time in question, being used exclusively for an activity sponsored by or

S.B. 161 01-27-00 2:43 PM

152	through the school.
153	(b) "Regular school day" includes one hour before the beginning of regularly scheduled
154	classroom instruction through one hour after the end of regularly scheduled classroom instruction.
155	[(1) A] (2) Except as provided in Subsection (4), a person may not knowingly and
156	intentionally possess any dangerous weapon, including a firearm, [or sawed-off shotgun,] as those
157	terms are defined in Section 76-10-501, at a place that the person knows, or has reasonable cause
158	to believe, is on [or about] school premises.
159	[(2)] (3) (a) Possession of a dangerous weapon which is not a firearm on [or about] school
160	premises is a class B misdemeanor.
161	(b) Possession of a firearm [or sawed-off shotgun] on [or about] school premises is a class
162	A misdemeanor, except as provided in Subsection (6).
163	[(3) This section] (4) The prohibition in Subsection (2) applies to any person[,] except
164	[persons authorized to possess a firearm as provided under Sections 53-5-704, 53-5-705,
165	53A-3-502, 76-10-511, 76-10-523, Subsection 76-10-504(2), and as otherwise authorized by law.]
166	as follows:
167	(a) a person who is authorized to possess a firearm at his place of residence by Section
168	<u>76-10-511;</u>
169	(b) a sworn, full-time law enforcement officer defined in Section 53-13-103;
170	(c) a person listed in Subsections 76-10-523(1)(a) through (1)(e), other than a sworn,
171	full-time law enforcement officer, so long as the person immediately upon entering a school
172	building during the regular school day goes to the principal's office to notify the principal, or his
173	designee if the principal is unavailable, that he is carrying a firearm, unless he is a peace officer
174	responding to a public safety need and acting within the scope of his authority under Title 53,
175	Chapter 13, Peace Officer Classifications; and
176	(d) a person licensed to carry a concealed firearm is permitted to possess a firearm:
177	(i) regardless of whether it is during the regular school day, on parking lots, streets,
178	sidewalks, or walkways that:
179	(A) are adjacent to, or cross school property; and
180	(B) are freely accessible to, and intended for use by, the general public for public and
181	private purposes; or
182	(ii) in a school building or on school premises, other than those locations permitted by

01-27-00 2:43 PM S.B. 161

183	Subsection (4)(d)(i), during the regular school day so long as the person, immediately upon
184	entering on school premises, goes to the principal's office to notify the principal, or his designee
185	if the principal is unavailable, that he is carrying a concealed firearm.
186	(5) (a) The notification by a person pursuant to Subsection (4) to the school principal or
187	his designee shall be kept confidential by the principal or his designee except that the principal or
188	his designee may notify law enforcement personnel if the principal or his designee reasonably
189	believes it is the intent of the person to bring harm to himself or others.
190	(b) A person employed by the administration of a school or school district who is
191	convicted for identifying or discriminating in any way against any person who has notified the
192	administration pursuant to this section:
193	(i) upon the first conviction of violating this Subsection (5), is guilty of an infraction; and
194	(ii) upon a second conviction of violating this Subsection (5), is guilty of a class C
195	misdemeanor.
196	(6) A person licensed to carry a concealed firearm who is convicted of violating this
197	section shall return his permit, which shall be void upon the person's conviction, within ten days
198	to the division:
199	(a) may not reapply or be approved for a permit to carry a concealed firearm until one year
200	after the person's first conviction;
201	(b) upon a second conviction of violating this section, is guilty of a class C misdemeanor
202	and may not reapply or be approved for a permit to carry a concealed firearm until five years after
203	the person's second conviction; and
204	(c) upon a third conviction of violating this section, is guilty of a class A misdemeanor and
205	may not be approved by the division for another concealed firearm permit.
206	[(4)] (7) This section does not prohibit prosecution of a more serious weapons offense that
207	may occur on or about school premises.
208	Section 6. Section 76-10-523 is amended to read:
209	76-10-523. Persons exempt from weapons laws.
210	(1) [This] Except as provided in Section 76-10-505.5, this part and Title 53, Chapter 5,
211	Part 7, Concealed Weapon Act, do not apply to any of the following:
212	(a) a United States marshal while engaged in the performance of his official duties;
213	(b) a federal official required to carry a firearm while engaged in the performance of his

S.B. 161 01-27-00 2:43 PM

214	official duties;
215	(c) a peace officer of this or any other jurisdiction while engaged in the performance of his
216	official duties;
217	(d) a law enforcement official as defined and qualified under Section 53-5-711;
218	(e) a judge as defined and qualified in Section 53-5-711;
219	(f) a common carrier while engaged in the regular and ordinary transport of firearms as
220	merchandise; or
221	(g) a nonresident traveling in or through the state, provided that any firearm is:
222	(i) unloaded; and
223	(ii) securely encased as defined in Section 76-10-501.
224	(2) The provisions of Subsections 76-10-504(1)(a), (1)(b), and Section 76-10-505 do not
225	apply to any person to whom a permit to carry a concealed firearm has been issued:
226	(a) pursuant to Section 53-5-704; or
227	(b) by another state whose requirements for issuance of a concealed firearm permit have
228	been determined annually by the Department of Public Safety to meet or exceed the requirements
229	for issuance of a concealed firearm permit in this state.

## Legislative Review Note as of 1-20-00 10:38 AM

A limited legal review of this legislation raises no obvious constitutional or statutory concerns.

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel