

027246660

SENATE BILL NO. 424

Offered January 9, 2002

Prefiled January 9, 2002

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 8 of Title 15.2 an article numbered 6, consisting of a section numbered 15.2-859, relating to possessing dangerous weapons in county-owned or county-operated facilities; penalty.

Patron—Byrne

Referred to Committee on Local Government

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 8 of Title 15.2 an article numbered 6, consisting of a section numbered 15.2-859 as follows:

ARTICLE 6.**Weapons in County Facilities.**

§ 15.2-859. Possessing dangerous weapons in certain county-owned or county-operated facilities; penalty.

The governing body of any county that has adopted the urban county executive form of government may, by ordinance, make it unlawful for any person to possess a dangerous weapon upon the property, including buildings and grounds thereof, of any county-owned or county-operated facility. Any such ordinance shall provide for appropriate exemptions for educational, instructional, theatrical and historical events. Any such ordinance shall not apply to public streets, roads or highways that are within such a county, but such an ordinance may be made applicable to the access roads and parking areas for the facilities that are subject to the ordinance.

Notice of any such ordinance shall be posted at each public entrance of every county facility that is within the scope of the ordinance. A violation of such an ordinance shall be punishable as a Class 1 misdemeanor, and upon conviction, any weapon seized shall be disposed of in accordance with § 18.2-310.

For the purposes of this section, the term "dangerous weapon" means any weapon described in subsection A of § 18.2-308.

No such ordinance shall apply to the following individuals: (i) any law-enforcement officer as defined by § 9.1-101; (ii) any game warden, animal warden, or deputy animal warden; (iii) any special police officer; (iv) any magistrate, court officer, or judge; or (v) any person who holds a valid concealed weapons permit issued in accordance with subsection D of § 18.2-308 or recognized pursuant to subsection P of § 18.2-308.

INTRODUCED

SB424