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SENATE BILL NO. 660

Senate Amendments in [] — February 16, 2004

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 18.2-287.01, relating to weapons in airports.

Patron Prior to Engrossment—Senator Stolle

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 18.2-287.01 as follows:

§ 18.2-287.01. Carrying weapon in air carrier airport terminal.

It shall be unlawful for any person to possess or transport into any air carrier airport terminal in the Commonwealth any (i) gun or other weapon designed or intended to propel a [missle missile] or projectile of any kind, (ii) frame, receiver, muffler, silencer, [missle missile], projectile or ammunition designed for use with a dangerous weapon and (iii) any other dangerous weapon, including explosives, tasers, stun weapons and those weapons specified in subsection A of §18.2-308. Any such weapon shall be subject to seizure by a law-enforcement officer. A violation of this section is punishable as a Class 1 misdemeanor. Any weapon possessed or transported in violation of this section shall be forfeited to the Commonwealth and disposed of as provided in § subsection A of 18.2-308.

The provisions of this section shall not apply to any police officer, sheriff, law-enforcement agent or official, [or] game warden [, or conservator of the peace while in the conduct of such person's official duties, ] [, or conservator of the peace employed by the air carrier airport, ] nor shall the provisions of this section apply to any ticketed passenger who, to the extent otherwise permitted by law, transports a lawful firearm into or out of an air carrier airport terminal for the sole purposes, respectively, of checking such firearm with his luggage or retrieving such firearm from the baggage

claim area.