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SENATE BILL NO. 476

Offered January 9, 2008

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A BILL to amend and reenact § 18.2-308 of the Code of Virginia, relating to concealed handguns; restaurants.

Patron—Hanger

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 18.2-308 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 18.2-308. Personal protection; carrying concealed weapons; when lawful to carry.

A. If any person carries about his person, hidden from common observation, (i) any pistol, revolver, or other weapon designed or intended to propel a missile of any kind by action of an explosion of any combustible material; (ii) any dirk, bowie knife, switchblade knife, ballistic knife, machete, razor, slingshot, spring stick, metal knucks, or blackjack; (iii) any flailing instrument consisting of two or more rigid parts connected in such a manner as to allow them to swing freely, which may be known as a nun chahka, nun chuck, nunchaku, shuriken, or fighting chain; (iv) any disc, of whatever configuration, having at least two points or pointed blades which is designed to be thrown or propelled and which may be known as a throwing star or oriental dart; or (v) any weapon of like kind as those enumerated in this subsection, he shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. A second violation of this section or a conviction under this section subsequent to any conviction under any substantially similar ordinance of any county, city, or town shall be punishable as a Class 6 felony, and a third or subsequent such violation shall be punishable as a Class 5 felony. For the purpose of this section, a weapon shall be deemed to be hidden from common observation when it is observable but is of such deceptive appearance as to disguise the weapon's true nature.

B. This section shall not apply to any person while in his own place of abode or the curtilage thereof.

Except as provided in subsection J1, this section shall not apply to:

1. Any person while in his own place of business;

2. Any law-enforcement officer, wherever such law-enforcement officer may travel in the Commonwealth;

3. Any regularly enrolled member of a target shooting organization who is at, or going to or from, an established shooting range, provided that the weapons are unloaded and securely wrapped while being transported;

4. Any regularly enrolled member of a weapons collecting organization who is at, or going to or from, a bona fide weapons exhibition, provided that the weapons are unloaded and securely wrapped while being transported;

5. Any person carrying such weapons between his place of abode and a place of purchase or repair, provided the weapons are unloaded and securely wrapped while being transported;

6. Any person actually engaged in lawful hunting, as authorized by the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries, under inclement weather conditions necessitating temporary protection of his firearm from those conditions, provided that possession of a handgun while engaged in lawful hunting shall not be construed as hunting with a handgun if the person hunting is carrying a valid concealed handgun permit;

7. Any State Police officer retired from the Department of State Police, any local law-enforcement officer, auxiliary police officer or animal control officer retired from a police department or sheriff's office within the Commonwealth, any special agent retired from the State Corporation Commission or the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, any conservation police officer retired from the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, and any Virginia Marine Police officer retired from the Law Enforcement Division of the Virginia Marine Resources Commission, other than an officer or agent terminated for cause, (i) with a service-related disability; (ii) following at least 15 years of service with any such law-enforcement agency, board or any combination thereof; or (iii) who has reached 55 years of age, provided such officer carries with him written proof of consultation with and favorable review of the need to carry a concealed handgun issued by the chief law-enforcement officer of the last such agency from which the officer retired or, in the case of special agents, issued by the State Corporation Commission or the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board. A copy of the proof of consultation and favorable review shall be forwarded by the chief or the Board to the Department of State Police for entry into the Virginia Criminal Information Network. The chief law-enforcement officer shall not

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59 without cause withhold such written proof if the retired law-enforcement officer otherwise meets the  
60 requirements of this section.

61 For purposes of applying the reciprocity provisions of subsection P, any person granted the privilege  
62 to carry a concealed handgun pursuant to this subdivision, while carrying the proof of consultation and  
63 favorable review required, shall be deemed to have been issued a concealed handgun permit.

64 For purposes of complying with the federal Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act of 2004, a retired  
65 law-enforcement officer who receives proof of consultation and review pursuant to this subdivision shall  
66 have the opportunity to annually participate, at the retired law-enforcement officer's expense, in the same  
67 training and testing to carry firearms as is required of active law-enforcement officers in the  
68 Commonwealth. If such retired law-enforcement officer meets the training and qualification standards,  
69 the chief law-enforcement officer shall issue the retired officer certification, valid one year from the date  
70 of issuance, indicating that the retired officer has met the standards of the agency to carry a firearm; and

71 8. Any State Police officer who is a member of the organized reserve forces of any of the armed  
72 services of the United States, national guard, or naval militia, while such officer is called to active  
73 military duty, provided such officer carries with him written proof of consultation with and favorable  
74 review of the need to carry a concealed handgun issued by the Superintendent of State Police. The proof  
75 of consultation and favorable review shall be valid as long as the officer is on active military duty and  
76 shall expire when the officer returns to active law-enforcement duty. The issuance of the proof of  
77 consultation and favorable review shall be entered into the Virginia Criminal Information Network. The  
78 Superintendent of State Police shall not without cause withhold such written proof if the officer is in  
79 good standing and is qualified to carry a weapon while on active law-enforcement duty.

80 For purposes of applying the reciprocity provisions of subsection P, any person granted the privilege  
81 to carry a concealed handgun pursuant to this subdivision, while carrying the proof of consultation and  
82 favorable review required, shall be deemed to have been issued a concealed handgun permit.

83 C. This section shall also not apply to any of the following individuals while in the discharge of  
84 their official duties, or while in transit to or from such duties:

- 85 1. Carriers of the United States mail;
- 86 2. Officers or guards of any state correctional institution;
- 87 3. —Repealed.]
- 88 4. Conservators of the peace, except that the following conservators of the peace shall not be  
89 permitted to carry a concealed handgun without obtaining a permit as provided in subsection D hereof:  
90 (a) notaries public; (b) registrars; (c) drivers, operators or other persons in charge of any motor vehicle  
91 carrier of passengers for hire; or (d) commissioners in chancery;
- 92 5. Noncustodial employees of the Department of Corrections designated to carry weapons by the  
93 Director of the Department of Corrections pursuant to § 53.1-29; and
- 94 6. Harbormaster of the City of Hopewell.

95 D. Any person 21 years of age or older may apply in writing to the clerk of the circuit court of the  
96 county or city in which he resides, or if he is a member of the United States Armed Forces, the county  
97 or city in which he is domiciled, for a five-year permit to carry a concealed handgun. There shall be no  
98 requirement regarding the length of time an applicant has been a resident or domiciliary of the county or  
99 city. The application shall be made under oath before a notary or other person qualified to take oaths  
100 and shall be made only on a form prescribed by the Department of State Police, in consultation with the  
101 Supreme Court, requiring only that information necessary to determine eligibility for the permit. The  
102 clerk shall enter on the application the date on which the application and all other information required  
103 to be submitted by the applicant is received. The court shall consult with either the sheriff or police  
104 department of the county or city and receive a report from the Central Criminal Records Exchange. As a  
105 condition for issuance of a concealed handgun permit, the applicant shall submit to fingerprinting if  
106 required by local ordinance in the county or city where the applicant resides and provide personal  
107 descriptive information to be forwarded with the fingerprints through the Central Criminal Records  
108 Exchange to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for the purpose of obtaining criminal history record  
109 information regarding the applicant, and obtaining fingerprint identification information from federal  
110 records pursuant to criminal investigations by state and local law-enforcement agencies. However, no  
111 local ordinance shall require an applicant to submit to fingerprinting if the applicant has an existing  
112 concealed handgun permit issued pursuant to this section and is applying for a new five-year permit  
113 pursuant to subsection I. Where feasible and practical, the local law-enforcement agency may transfer  
114 information electronically to the State Police instead of inked fingerprint cards. Upon completion of the  
115 criminal history records check, the State Police shall return the fingerprint cards to the submitting local  
116 agency or, in the case of scanned fingerprints, destroy the electronic record. The local agency shall then  
117 promptly notify the person that he has 21 days from the date of the notice to request return of the  
118 fingerprint cards, if any. All fingerprint cards not claimed by the applicant within 21 days of notification  
119 by the local agency shall be destroyed. All optically scanned fingerprints shall be destroyed upon  
120 completion of the criminal history records check without requiring that the applicant be notified.

121 Fingerprints taken for the purposes described in this section shall not be copied, held or used for any  
 122 other purposes. The court shall issue the permit and notify the State Police of the issuance of the permit  
 123 within 45 days of receipt of the completed application unless it is determined that the applicant is  
 124 disqualified. Any order denying issuance of the permit shall state the basis for the denial of the permit  
 125 and the applicant's right to and the requirements for perfecting an appeal of such order pursuant to  
 126 subsection L. An application is deemed complete when all information required to be furnished by the  
 127 applicant is delivered to and received by the clerk of court before or concomitant with the conduct of a  
 128 state or national criminal history records check. If the court has not issued the permit or determined that  
 129 the applicant is disqualified within 45 days of the date of receipt noted on the application, the clerk shall  
 130 certify on the application that the 45-day period has expired, and send a copy of the certified application  
 131 to the applicant. The certified application shall serve as a de facto permit, which shall expire 90 days  
 132 after issuance, and shall be recognized as a valid concealed handgun permit when presented with a valid  
 133 government-issued photo identification pursuant to subsection H, until the court issues a five-year permit  
 134 or finds the applicant to be disqualified. If the applicant is found to be disqualified after the de facto  
 135 permit is issued, the applicant shall surrender the de facto permit to the court and the disqualification  
 136 shall be deemed a denial of the permit and a revocation of the de facto permit. If the applicant is later  
 137 found by the court to be disqualified after a permit has been issued, the five-year permit shall be  
 138 revoked. The clerk of court may withhold from public disclosure the social security number contained in  
 139 a permit application in response to a request to inspect or copy any such permit application, except that  
 140 such social security number shall not be withheld from any law-enforcement officer acting in the  
 141 performance of his official duties.

142 E. The following persons shall be deemed disqualified from obtaining a permit:

143 1. An individual who is ineligible to possess a firearm pursuant to § 18.2-308.1:1, 18.2-308.1:2 or  
 144 18.2-308.1:3 or the substantially similar law of any other state or of the United States.

145 2. An individual who was ineligible to possess a firearm pursuant to § 18.2-308.1:1 and who was  
 146 discharged from the custody of the Commissioner pursuant to § 19.2-182.7 less than five years before  
 147 the date of his application for a concealed handgun permit.

148 3. An individual who was ineligible to possess a firearm pursuant to § 18.2-308.1:2 and whose  
 149 competency or capacity was restored pursuant to § 37.2-1012 less than five years before the date of his  
 150 application for a concealed handgun permit.

151 4. An individual who was ineligible to possess a firearm under § 18.2-308.1:3 and who was released  
 152 from commitment less than five years before the date of this application for a concealed handgun  
 153 permit.

154 5. An individual who is subject to a restraining order, or to a protective order and prohibited by  
 155 § 18.2-308.1:4 from purchasing or transporting a firearm.

156 6. An individual who is prohibited by § 18.2-308.2 from possessing or transporting a firearm, except  
 157 that a permit may be obtained in accordance with subsection C of that section.

158 7. An individual who has been convicted of two or more misdemeanors within the five-year period  
 159 immediately preceding the application, if one of the misdemeanors was a Class 1 misdemeanor, but the  
 160 judge shall have the discretion to deny a permit for two or more misdemeanors that are not Class 1.  
 161 Traffic infractions and misdemeanors set forth in Title 46.2 shall not be considered for purposes of this  
 162 disqualification.

163 8. An individual who is addicted to, or is an unlawful user or distributor of, marijuana or any  
 164 controlled substance.

165 9. An individual who has been convicted of a violation of § 18.2-266 or a substantially similar local  
 166 ordinance or of public drunkenness within the three-year period immediately preceding the application,  
 167 or who is a habitual drunkard as determined pursuant to § 4.1-333.

168 10. An alien other than an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United States.

169 11. An individual who has been discharged from the Armed Forces of the United States under  
 170 dishonorable conditions.

171 12. An individual who is a fugitive from justice.

172 13. An individual who the court finds, by a preponderance of the evidence, based on specific acts by  
 173 the applicant, is likely to use a weapon unlawfully or negligently to endanger others. The sheriff, chief  
 174 of police, or attorney for the Commonwealth may submit to the court a sworn written statement  
 175 indicating that, in the opinion of such sheriff, chief of police, or attorney for the Commonwealth, based  
 176 upon a disqualifying conviction or upon the specific acts set forth in the statement, the applicant is  
 177 likely to use a weapon unlawfully or negligently to endanger others. The statement of the sheriff, chief  
 178 of police, or the attorney for the Commonwealth shall be based upon personal knowledge of such  
 179 individual or of a deputy sheriff, police officer, or assistant attorney for the Commonwealth of the  
 180 specific acts, or upon a written statement made under oath before a notary public of a competent person  
 181 having personal knowledge of the specific acts.

182 14. An individual who has been convicted of any assault, assault and battery, sexual battery,  
183 discharging of a firearm in violation of § 18.2-280 or 18.2-286.1 or brandishing of a firearm in violation  
184 of § 18.2-282 within the three-year period immediately preceding the application.

185 15. An individual who has been convicted of stalking.

186 16. An individual whose previous convictions or adjudications of delinquency were based on an  
187 offense which would have been at the time of conviction a felony if committed by an adult under the  
188 laws of any state, the District of Columbia, the United States or its territories. For purposes of this  
189 disqualifier, only convictions occurring within 16 years following the later of the date of (i) the  
190 conviction or adjudication or (ii) release from any incarceration imposed upon such conviction or  
191 adjudication shall be deemed to be "previous convictions."

192 17. An individual who has a felony charge pending or a charge pending for an offense listed in  
193 subdivision 14 or 15.

194 18. An individual who has received mental health treatment or substance abuse treatment in a  
195 residential setting within five years prior to the date of his application for a concealed handgun permit.

196 19. An individual not otherwise ineligible pursuant to this section, who, within the three-year period  
197 immediately preceding the application for the permit, was found guilty of any criminal offense set forth  
198 in Article 1 (§ 18.2-247 et seq.) of Chapter 7 of this title or of a criminal offense of illegal possession  
199 or distribution of marijuana or any controlled substance, under the laws of any state, the District of  
200 Columbia, or the United States or its territories.

201 20. An individual, not otherwise ineligible pursuant to this section, with respect to whom, within the  
202 three-year period immediately preceding the application, upon a charge of any criminal offense set forth  
203 in Article 1 (§ 18.2-247 et seq.) of Chapter 7 of this title or upon a charge of illegal possession or  
204 distribution of marijuana or any controlled substance under the laws of any state, the District of  
205 Columbia, or the United States or its territories, the trial court found that the facts of the case were  
206 sufficient for a finding of guilt and disposed of the case pursuant to § 18.2-251 or the substantially  
207 similar law of any other state, the District of Columbia, or the United States or its territories.

208 F. The making of a materially false statement in an application under this section shall constitute  
209 perjury, punishable as provided in § 18.2-434.

210 G. The court shall require proof that the applicant has demonstrated competence with a handgun and  
211 the applicant may demonstrate such competence by one of the following, but no applicant shall be  
212 required to submit to any additional demonstration of competence:

213 1. Completing any hunter education or hunter safety course approved by the Department of Game  
214 and Inland Fisheries or a similar agency of another state;

215 2. Completing any National Rifle Association firearms safety or training course;

216 3. Completing any firearms safety or training course or class available to the general public offered  
217 by a law-enforcement agency, junior college, college, or private or public institution or organization or  
218 firearms training school utilizing instructors certified by the National Rifle Association or the  
219 Department of Criminal Justice Services;

220 4. Completing any law-enforcement firearms safety or training course or class offered for security  
221 guards, investigators, special deputies, or any division or subdivision of law enforcement or security  
222 enforcement;

223 5. Presenting evidence of equivalent experience with a firearm through participation in organized  
224 shooting competition or current military service or proof of an honorable discharge from any branch of  
225 the armed services;

226 6. Obtaining or previously having held a license to carry a firearm in the Commonwealth or a  
227 locality thereof, unless such license has been revoked for cause;

228 7. Completing any firearms training or safety course or class conducted by a state-certified or  
229 National Rifle Association-certified firearms instructor;

230 8. Completing any governmental police agency firearms training course and qualifying to carry a  
231 firearm in the course of normal police duties; or

232 9. Completing any other firearms training which the court deems adequate.

233 A photocopy of a certificate of completion of any of the courses or classes; an affidavit from the  
234 instructor, school, club, organization, or group that conducted or taught such course or class attesting to  
235 the completion of the course or class by the applicant; or a copy of any document which shows  
236 completion of the course or class or evidences participation in firearms competition shall constitute  
237 evidence of qualification under this subsection.

238 H. The permit to carry a concealed handgun shall specify only the following information: name,  
239 address, date of birth, gender, height, weight, color of hair, color of eyes, and signature of the permittee;  
240 the signature of the judge issuing the permit, or of the clerk of court who has been authorized to sign  
241 such permits by the issuing judge; the date of issuance; and the expiration date. The permit to carry a  
242 concealed handgun shall be no larger than two inches wide by three and one-fourth inches long and  
243 shall be of a uniform style prescribed by the Department of State Police. The person issued the permit

244 shall have such permit on his person at all times during which he is carrying a concealed handgun and  
 245 shall display the permit and a photo-identification issued by a government agency of the Commonwealth  
 246 or by the United States Department of Defense or United States State Department (passport) upon  
 247 demand by a law-enforcement officer.

248 H1. If a permit holder is a member of the Virginia National Guard, Armed Forces of the United  
 249 States, or the Armed Forces reserves of the United States, and his five-year permit expires during an  
 250 active-duty military deployment outside of the permittee's county or city of residence, such permit shall  
 251 remain valid for 90 days after the end date of the deployment. In order to establish proof of continued  
 252 validity of the permit, such a permittee shall carry with him and display, upon request of a  
 253 law-enforcement officer, a copy of the permittee's deployment orders or other documentation from the  
 254 permittee's commanding officer that order the permittee to travel outside of his county or city of  
 255 residence and that indicate the start and end date of such deployment.

256 I. Persons who previously have held a concealed handgun permit shall be issued, upon application as  
 257 provided in subsection D, a new five-year permit unless there is good cause shown for refusing to  
 258 reissue a permit. If the circuit court denies the permit, the specific reasons for the denial shall be stated  
 259 in the order of the court denying the permit. Upon denial of the application, the clerk shall provide the  
 260 person with notice, in writing, of his right to an ore tenus hearing. Upon request of the applicant made  
 261 within 21 days, the court shall place the matter on the docket for an ore tenus hearing. The applicant  
 262 may be represented by counsel, but counsel shall not be appointed, and the rules of evidence shall  
 263 apply. The final order of the court shall include the court's findings of fact and conclusions of law.

264 J. Any person convicted of an offense that would disqualify that person from obtaining a permit  
 265 under subsection E or who violates subsection F shall forfeit his permit for a concealed handgun and  
 266 surrender it to the court. Upon receipt by the Central Criminal Records Exchange of a record of the  
 267 arrest, conviction or occurrence of any other event that would disqualify a person from obtaining a  
 268 concealed handgun permit under subsection E, the Central Criminal Records Exchange shall notify the  
 269 court having issued the permit of such disqualifying arrest, conviction or other event.

270 J1. Any person permitted to carry a concealed handgun, who is under the influence of alcohol or  
 271 illegal drugs while carrying such handgun in a public place, shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.  
 272 Conviction of any of the following offenses shall be prima facie evidence, subject to rebuttal, that the  
 273 person is "under the influence" for purposes of this section: manslaughter in violation of § 18.2-36.1,  
 274 maiming in violation of § 18.2-51.4, driving while intoxicated in violation of § 18.2-266, public  
 275 intoxication in violation of § 18.2-388, or driving while intoxicated in violation of § 46.2-341.24. Upon  
 276 such conviction that court shall revoke the person's permit for a concealed handgun and promptly notify  
 277 the issuing circuit court. A person convicted of a violation of this subsection shall be ineligible to apply  
 278 for a concealed handgun permit for a period of five years.

279 J2. An individual who has a felony charge pending or a charge pending for an offense listed in  
 280 subdivision E 14 or E 15, holding a permit for a concealed handgun, may have the permit suspended by  
 281 the court before which such charge is pending or by the court that issued the permit.

282 J3. No person shall ~~carry~~ *who carries* a concealed handgun onto the premises of any restaurant or  
 283 club as defined in § 4.1-100 for which a license to sell and serve alcoholic beverages for on-premises  
 284 consumption has been granted by the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Board under Title 4.1 of the  
 285 Code of Virginia *may consume an alcoholic beverage while on the premises*; however, nothing herein  
 286 *regarding the consumption of alcohol shall prohibit any sworn* apply to a federal, state, or local  
 287 law-enforcement officer ~~from carrying a concealed handgun on the premises of such restaurant or club~~  
 288 ~~or any owner or event sponsor or his employees from carrying a concealed handgun while on duty at~~  
 289 ~~such restaurant or club if such person has a concealed handgun permit while actually engaged in the~~  
 290 *performance of his official duties.*

291 J4. Any individual for whom it would be unlawful to purchase, possess or transport a firearm under  
 292 § 18.2-308.1:2 or 18.2-308.1:3, who holds a concealed handgun permit, may have the permit suspended  
 293 by the court that issued the permit during the period of incompetency, incapacity or disability.

294 K. No fee shall be charged for the issuance of such permit to a person who has retired from service  
 295 (i) as a magistrate in the Commonwealth; (ii) as a special agent with the Alcoholic Beverage Control  
 296 Board or as a law-enforcement officer with the Department of State Police, the Department of Game and  
 297 Inland Fisheries, or a sheriff or police department, bureau or force of any political subdivision of the  
 298 Commonwealth, after completing 15 years of service or after reaching age 55; (iii) as a law-enforcement  
 299 officer with the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and  
 300 Firearms, Secret Service Agency, Drug Enforcement Administration, United States Citizenship and  
 301 Immigration Services, Customs Service, Department of State Diplomatic Security Service, U.S. Marshals  
 302 Service or Naval Criminal Investigative Service, after completing 15 years of service or after reaching  
 303 age 55; (iv) as a law-enforcement officer with any police or sheriff's department within the United  
 304 States, the District of Columbia or any of the territories of the United States, after completing 15 years

305 of service; or (v) as a law-enforcement officer with any combination of the agencies listed in clauses (ii)  
306 through (iv), after completing 15 years of service. The clerk shall charge a fee of \$10 for the processing  
307 of an application or issuing of a permit, including his costs associated with the consultation with  
308 law-enforcement agencies. The local law-enforcement agency conducting the background investigation  
309 may charge a fee not to exceed \$35 to cover the cost of conducting an investigation pursuant to this  
310 section. The \$35 fee shall include any amount assessed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation for  
311 providing criminal history record information, and the local law-enforcement agency shall forward the  
312 amount assessed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation to the State Police with the fingerprints taken  
313 from the applicant. The State Police may charge a fee not to exceed \$5 to cover their costs associated  
314 with processing the application. The total amount assessed for processing an application for a permit  
315 shall not exceed \$50, with such fees to be paid in one sum to the person who accepts the application.  
316 Payment may be made by any method accepted by that court for payment of other fees or penalties. No  
317 payment shall be required until the application is accepted by the court as a complete application. The  
318 order issuing such permit, or the copy of the permit application certified by the clerk as a de facto  
319 permit pursuant to subsection D, shall be provided to the State Police and the law-enforcement agencies  
320 of the county or city. The State Police shall enter the permittee's name and description in the Virginia  
321 Criminal Information Network so that the permit's existence and current status will be made known to  
322 law-enforcement personnel accessing the Network for investigative purposes.

323 L. Any person denied a permit to carry a concealed handgun under the provisions of this section  
324 may present a petition for review to the Court of Appeals. The petition for review shall be filed within  
325 60 days of the expiration of the time for requesting an ore tenus hearing pursuant to subsection I, or if  
326 an ore tenus hearing is requested, within 60 days of the entry of the final order of the circuit court  
327 following the hearing. The petition shall be accompanied by a copy of the original papers filed in the  
328 circuit court, including a copy of the order of the circuit court denying the permit. Subject to the  
329 provisions of subsection B of § 17.1-410, the decision of the Court of Appeals or judge shall be final.  
330 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if the decision to deny the permit is reversed upon appeal,  
331 taxable costs incurred by the person shall be paid by the Commonwealth.

332 M. For purposes of this section:

333 "Handgun" means any pistol or revolver or other firearm, except a machine gun, originally designed,  
334 made and intended to fire a projectile by means of an explosion of a combustible material from one or  
335 more barrels when held in one hand.

336 "Lawfully admitted for permanent residence" means the status of having been lawfully accorded the  
337 privilege of residing permanently in the United States as an immigrant in accordance with the  
338 immigration laws, such status not having changed.

339 "Law-enforcement officer" means those individuals defined as a law-enforcement officer in § 9.1-101,  
340 campus police officers appointed pursuant to Chapter 17 (§ 23-232 et seq.) of Title 23, law-enforcement  
341 agents of the Armed Forces of the United States, the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, and federal  
342 agents who are otherwise authorized to carry weapons by federal law. "Law-enforcement officer" shall  
343 also mean any sworn full-time law-enforcement officer employed by a law-enforcement agency of the  
344 United States or any state or political subdivision thereof, whose duties are substantially similar to those  
345 set forth in § 9.1-101.

346 "Personal knowledge" means knowledge of a fact that a person has himself gained through his own  
347 senses, or knowledge that was gained by a law-enforcement officer or prosecutor through the  
348 performance of his official duties.

349 N. As used in this article:

350 "Ballistic knife" means any knife with a detachable blade that is propelled by a spring-operated  
351 mechanism.

352 "Spring stick" means a spring-loaded metal stick activated by pushing a button which rapidly and  
353 forcefully telescopes the weapon to several times its original length.

354 O. The granting of a concealed handgun permit shall not thereby authorize the possession of any  
355 handgun or other weapon on property or in places where such possession is otherwise prohibited by law  
356 or is prohibited by the owner of private property.

357 P. A valid concealed handgun or concealed weapon permit or license issued by another state shall  
358 authorize the holder of such permit or license who is at least 21 years of age to carry a concealed  
359 handgun in the Commonwealth, provided (i) the issuing authority provides the means for instantaneous  
360 verification of the validity of all such permits or licenses issued within that state, accessible 24 hours a  
361 day, and (ii) except for the age of the permit or license holder and the type of weapon authorized to be  
362 carried, the requirements and qualifications of that state's law are adequate to prevent possession of a  
363 permit or license by persons who would be denied a permit in the Commonwealth under this section.  
364 The Superintendent of State Police shall (a) in consultation with the Office of the Attorney General  
365 determine whether states meet the requirements and qualifications of this section, (b) maintain a registry  
366 of such states on the Virginia Criminal Information Network (VCIN), and (c) make the registry available

367 to law-enforcement officers for investigative purposes. The Superintendent of the State Police, in  
 368 consultation with the Attorney General, may also enter into agreements for reciprocal recognition with  
 369 any state qualifying for recognition under this subsection.

370 P1. Nonresidents of the Commonwealth 21 years of age or older may apply in writing to the  
 371 Virginia Department of State Police for a five-year permit to carry a concealed handgun. Every applicant  
 372 for a nonresident concealed handgun permit shall submit two photographs of a type and kind specified  
 373 by the Department of State Police for inclusion on the permit and shall submit fingerprints on a card  
 374 provided by the Department of State Police for the purpose of obtaining the applicant's state or national  
 375 criminal history record. As a condition for issuance of a concealed handgun permit, the applicant shall  
 376 submit to fingerprinting by his local or state law-enforcement agency and provide personal descriptive  
 377 information to be forwarded with the fingerprints through the Central Criminal Records Exchange to the  
 378 Federal Bureau of Investigation for the purpose of obtaining criminal history record information  
 379 regarding the applicant and obtaining fingerprint identification information from federal records pursuant  
 380 to criminal investigations by state and local law-enforcement agencies. The application shall be made  
 381 under oath before a notary or other person qualified to take oaths on a form provided by the Department  
 382 of State Police, requiring only that information necessary to determine eligibility for the permit. If the  
 383 permittee is later found by the Department of State Police to be disqualified, the permit shall be revoked  
 384 and the person shall return the permit after being so notified by the Department of State Police. The  
 385 permit requirement and restriction provisions of subsections E and F shall apply, mutatis mutandis, to  
 386 the provisions of this subsection.

387 The applicant shall demonstrate competence with a handgun by one of the following:

388 1. Completing a hunter education or hunter safety course approved by the Virginia Department of  
 389 Game and Inland Fisheries or a similar agency of another state;

390 2. Completing any National Rifle Association firearms safety or training course;

391 3. Completing any firearms safety or training course or class available to the general public offered  
 392 by a law-enforcement agency, junior college, college, or private or public institution or organization or  
 393 firearms training school utilizing instructors certified by the National Rifle Association or the  
 394 Department of Criminal Justice Services or a similar agency of another state;

395 4. Completing any law-enforcement firearms safety or training course or class offered for security  
 396 guards, investigators, special deputies, or any division or subdivision of law enforcement or security  
 397 enforcement;

398 5. Presenting evidence of equivalent experience with a firearm through participation in organized  
 399 shooting competition approved by the Department of State Police or current military service or proof of  
 400 an honorable discharge from any branch of the armed services;

401 6. Obtaining or previously having held a license to carry a firearm in the Commonwealth or a  
 402 locality thereof, unless such license has been revoked for cause;

403 7. Completing any firearms training or safety course or class conducted by a state-certified or  
 404 National Rifle Association-certified firearms instructor;

405 8. Completing any governmental police agency firearms training course and qualifying to carry a  
 406 firearm in the course of normal police duties; or

407 9. Completing any other firearms training that the Virginia Department of State Police deems  
 408 adequate.

409 A photocopy of a certificate of completion of any such course or class, an affidavit from the  
 410 instructor, school, club, organization, or group that conducted or taught such course or class attesting to  
 411 the completion of the course or class by the applicant, or a copy of any document which shows  
 412 completion of the course or class or evidences participation in firearms competition shall satisfy the  
 413 requirement for demonstration of competence with a handgun.

414 The Department of State Police may charge a fee not to exceed \$100 to cover the cost of the  
 415 background check and issuance of the permit. Any fees collected shall be deposited in a special account  
 416 to be used to offset the costs of administering the nonresident concealed handgun permit program. The  
 417 Department of State Police shall enter the permittee's name and description in the Virginia Criminal  
 418 Information Network so that the permit's existence and current status are known to law-enforcement  
 419 personnel accessing the Network for investigative purposes.

420 The permit to carry a concealed handgun shall contain only the following information: name,  
 421 address, date of birth, gender, height, weight, color of hair, color of eyes, and photograph of the  
 422 permittee; the signature of the Superintendent of the Virginia Department of State Police or his designee;  
 423 the date of issuance; and the expiration date. The person to whom the permit is issued shall have such  
 424 permit on his person at all times when he is carrying a concealed handgun in the Commonwealth and  
 425 shall display the permit on demand by a law-enforcement officer.

426 The Superintendent of the State Police shall promulgate regulations, pursuant to the Administrative  
 427 Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq.), for the implementation of an application process for obtaining a

428 nonresident concealed handgun permit.

429 Q. A valid concealed handgun permit issued by the State of Maryland shall be valid in the  
430 Commonwealth provided, (i) the holder of the permit is licensed in the State of Maryland to perform  
431 duties substantially similar to those performed by Virginia branch pilots licensed pursuant to Chapter 9  
432 (§ 54.1-900 et seq.) of Title 54.1 and is performing such duties while in the Commonwealth, and (ii) the  
433 holder of the permit is 21 years of age or older.

434 R. For the purposes of participation in concealed handgun reciprocity agreements with other  
435 jurisdictions, the official government-issued law-enforcement identification card issued to an active-duty  
436 law-enforcement officer in the Commonwealth who is exempt from obtaining a concealed handgun  
437 permit under this section shall be deemed a concealed handgun permit.

438 S. For the purposes of understanding the law relating to the use of deadly and lethal force, the  
439 Department of State Police, in consultation with the Supreme Court on the development of the  
440 application for a concealed handgun permit under this section, shall include a reference to the Virginia  
441 Supreme Court website address or the Virginia Reports on the application.