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**SENATE BILL NO. 1251**

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE**

(Proposed by the House Committee for Courts of Justice  
on February 18, 2019)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Reeves)

*A BILL to amend and reenact § 18.2-311 of the Code of Virginia, relating to manufacture and distribution of switchblade knives.*

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. That § 18.2-311 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

**§ 18.2-311. Prohibiting the selling or having in possession blackjacks, etc.**

A. If any person sells or barter, or exhibits for sale or for barter, or gives or furnishes, or causes to be sold, bartered, given or furnished, or has in his possession, or under his control, with the intent of selling, bartering, giving or furnishing, any blackjack, brass or metal knucks, 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, switchblade knife, ballistic knife as defined in § 18.2-307.1, or like weapons, such person is guilty of a Class 4 misdemeanor. The having in one's possession of any such weapon shall be prima facie evidence, except in the case of a conservator of the peace, of his intent to sell, barter, give or furnish the same.

B. *The provisions of subsection A shall not apply to the possession of a switchblade knife by any manufacturer or distributor in the course of his employment, or any employee thereof in the course of his employment, or to the wholesale or retail sale of a switchblade knife by a manufacturer or distributor through which the switchblade knife is shipped to any person outside the Commonwealth.*