

# 1996 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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## HOUSE BILL NO. 602

Offered January 19, 1996

*A BILL to amend and reenact § 18.2-56.2 of the Code of Virginia, relating to allowing children access to firearms; penalty.*

Patron—Melvin

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

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

**1. That § 18.2-56.2 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 18.2-56.2. Allowing access to firearms by children; penalty.

A. It shall be unlawful for any person to recklessly leave a loaded, unsecured firearm in such a manner as to endanger the life or limb of any child under the age of fourteen. Any person violating the provisions of this subsection shall be guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor.

B. It shall be unlawful for any person knowingly to authorize a child under the age of ~~twelve~~ *fourteen* to use a firearm except when the child is under the supervision of an adult. Any person violating this subsection shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. For purposes of this subsection, "adult" shall mean a parent, guardian, person standing in loco parentis to the child or a person twenty-one years or over who has the permission of the parent, guardian, or person standing in loco parentis to supervise the child in the use of a firearm.

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