

## 1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 18.2-282 of the Code of Virginia, relating to brandishing a firearm;*  
3 *intent; penalty.*

4  
5 Approved

[H 560]

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

7 **1. That § 18.2-282 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

8 **§ 18.2-282. Pointing, holding, or brandishing firearm, air or gas operated weapon or object**  
9 **similar in appearance; penalty.**

10 A. It ~~shall be~~ is unlawful for any person *with the intent to induce or when he knows or reasonably*  
11 *should know that his conduct induces fear in the mind of another* to point, hold, or brandish any firearm  
12 or any air or gas operated weapon or any object similar in appearance, whether capable of being fired or  
13 not, in such manner as to reasonably induce fear in the mind of another or hold a firearm or any air or  
14 gas operated weapon in a public place in such a manner as to reasonably induce fear in the mind of  
15 another of being shot or injured. However, this section shall not apply to any person engaged in  
16 excusable or justifiable self-defense. ~~Persons violating~~ A person who violates the provisions of this  
17 section ~~shall be~~ is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor or, if the violation occurs upon any public, private,  
18 or religious elementary, middle, or high school, including buildings and grounds or upon public property  
19 within 1,000 feet of such school property, he ~~shall be~~ is guilty of a Class 6 felony.

20 B. Any police officer in the performance of his duty, in making an arrest under the provisions of this  
21 section, shall not be civilly liable in damages for injuries or death resulting to the person being arrested  
22 if he had reason to believe that the person being arrested was pointing, holding, or brandishing such  
23 firearm or air or gas operated weapon, or object that was similar in appearance, with intent to induce  
24 fear in the mind of another.

25 C. For purposes of this section, the word "firearm" means any weapon that will or is designed to or  
26 may readily be converted to expel single or multiple projectiles by the action of an explosion of a  
27 combustible material. ~~The word "ammunition," as used herein, shall mean a cartridge, pellet, ball,~~  
28 ~~missile or projectile adapted for use in a firearm.~~

29 **2. That the provisions of this act may result in a net increase in periods of imprisonment or**  
30 **commitment. Pursuant to § 30-19.1:4, the estimated amount of the necessary appropriation is \$0**  
31 **for periods of imprisonment in state adult correctional facilities and cannot be determined for**  
32 **periods of commitment to the custody of the Department of Juvenile Justice.**

ENROLLED

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