

## 1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 18.2-308.7:1, relating to storage*  
3 *of firearms in a residence where a minor or person prohibited from possessing a firearm is present;*  
4 *penalty.*

5 [H 183]

6 Approved

7 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**8 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 18.2-308.7:1 as follows:**9 **§ 18.2-308.7:1. Storage of firearms; penalty.**

10 *A. Any person who possesses a firearm in a residence where such person knows that a minor or a*  
11 *person who is prohibited by law from possessing a firearm is present shall store such firearm and the*  
12 *ammunition for such firearm in a locked container, compartment, or cabinet that is inaccessible to such*  
13 *minor or prohibited person. A firearm may be stored loaded, provided that (i) such firearm is stored in*  
14 *a biometric storage device and (ii) no minor or prohibited person is an authorized user for the lock of*  
15 *such biometric storage device. Any person who violates this section is guilty of a Class 4 misdemeanor.*

16 *B. The provisions of this section shall not apply to (i) any person in lawful possession of a firearm*  
17 *who is carrying such firearm on or about his person or (ii) the storage of any antique firearm as*  
18 *defined in § 18.2-308.2:2.*

19 *C. Nothing in this section shall be construed as preventing any person from lawfully authorizing a*  
20 *minor to access a firearm in accordance with § 18.2-56.2.*

21 *D. Every dealer, as defined in § 18.2-308.2:2, shall post in a conspicuous manner at the premises of*  
22 *such dealer a notice stating: "Any person who possesses a firearm in a residence where such person*  
23 *knows that a minor or a person who is prohibited by law from possessing a firearm is present shall*  
24 *store such firearm and the ammunition for such firearm in a locked container, compartment, or cabinet*  
25 *that is inaccessible to such minor or prohibited person. A violation of this law is a Class 4*  
26 *misdemeanor."*

ENROLLED

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