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SENATE BILL NO. 1105

Offered January 20, 1997

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 15.1-15.1, relating to an ordinance regulating or prohibiting handguns in a public park; penalty.

Patrons—Marsh, Benedetti and Lambert; Delegates: Cunningham and Hall

Referred to the Committee on Local Government

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 15.1-15.1 as follows:

§ 15.1-15.1. Regulating or prohibiting handguns in public parks. Any city with a population between 200,000 and 205,000 may by ordinance regulate or prohibit any person, other than a law-enforcement officer otherwise permitted to carry such handgun, from carrying a handgun on or about his person while in any public park owned by the city. Such ordinance shall not conflict with the provisions of other state laws, and any penalties provided for a violation of such ordinance shall not exceed a fine of \$2,500 or confinement in a jail for twelve months, either or both. A person who may lawfully carry a concealed handgun pursuant to § 18.2-308 shall not be charged with a violation of the ordinance. A person who engages in conduct which constitutes a violation of § 18.2-308, and which would also constitute a violation of an ordinance adopted pursuant to this section, shall not be charged with a violation of both.