

SENATE BILL 570

By Niceley

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 13 and Title 49, Chapter 6, relative to carrying weapons on school property by certain employees.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-17-1309(e), is amended by adding the following new subdivision:

(8)

(A) A person employed by a school district as a faculty or staff member at a school within the district if the person:

(i) Is authorized to possess and carry a firearm pursuant to § 39-17-1351;

(ii) Has the written authorization of the director of schools to carry or possess a firearm on school property;

(iii) Has successfully completed a forty-hour course in basic school policing training, to include training in crisis management and hostile situations, no more than twelve (12) months prior to seeking authorization of the director of schools to carry or possess a firearm on school property. All such training shall be approved by each school district and the cost of the training, firearm and ammunition shall be at the expense of the person seeking authorization and not the school district;  
and

(iv) Uses only frangible bullets, or other ammunition that is specifically designed for use in a confined space, as approved by the peace officers standards and training commission.

(B) No local school district in which the director of schools authorizes a faculty or staff member to possess or carry a firearm pursuant to this subdivision (e)(8) shall be held liable in any civil action for damages, injuries, or death resulting from or arising out of a faculty or staff member's actions involving a firearm carried or possessed on school property unless the board of education or superintendent knew of or intentionally solicited or procured the faculty or staff member's actions involving a firearm that resulted in the harm.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013, the public welfare requiring it and shall apply to school year 2013-2014 and each school year thereafter.