

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 159 - SB 172

January 22, 2023

SUMMARY OF BILL: Exempts the possession or carrying of a pocket knife by a nonstudent adult from the offense of possessing or carrying a weapon on school property, if the knife remains concealed at all times while the adult is on school property for the sole purpose of voting in an election for which the school is the adult's designated polling place.

FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-17-1309(b), it is a Class E felony offense for any person to possess or carry, whether openly or concealed, with the intent to go armed, any firearm, explosive, explosive weapon, bowie knife, hawk bill knife, ice pick, dagger, slingshot, leaded cane, switchblade knife, blackjack, knuckles or any other weapon of like kind, not used solely for instructional or school-sanctioned ceremonial purposes, in any public or private school building or bus, on any public or private school campus, grounds, recreation area, athletic field or any other property owned, operated, or while in use by any board of education, school, college or university board of trustees, regents or directors for the administration of any public or private educational institution.
- Passage of the proposed legislation exempts the possession or carrying of a pocket knife a nonstudent adult from the offense of possessing or carrying a weapon on school property under specified conditions.
- Based on information provided by the Department of Correction, there has been an average of one admission per year over the past ten years for the Class E felony offense under Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-17-1309(b). Therefore, the proposed exemption will not result in a sufficient decrease in the number of prosecutions for state or local government to experience any significant decrease in revenue or expenditures.
- Any impact to the court system as a result of the proposed legislation is estimated to be not significant.

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CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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