



March 29, 2023

SUMMARY OF BILL AS AMENDED (006894): Authorizes a person employed by a local education agency (LEA) as a faculty or staff member at a school within the LEA to possess and carry a concealed handgun on the grounds of the school at which the person is assigned. Establishes requirements for a faculty or staff member at a school within the LEA to possess and carry a concealed handgun on the grounds of the school. Establishes that an LEA and law enforcement agency are immune from claims for monetary damages that arise solely from, or that are related to, a faculty or staff member's use of, or failure to use, a handgun. Establishes that the section does not apply to schools within the Department of Children's Services LEA or schools within the Department of Correction's LEA.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL AS AMENDED:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Faculty and staff members at an LEA who may want to carry a concealed handgun on school grounds must complete a minimum of 40 hours of training specific to school policing that has been approved by the peace officer standards and training (POST) commission each year to retain the authorization.
- Any such training must be approved by the LEA and the cost of the training, handgun, and ammunition is at the expense of the person seeking authorization to possess and carry a concealed handgun on school grounds, not the LEA of the school at which the person is assigned.
- Faculty and staff members must also be certified by a Tennessee licensed healthcare provider, who is qualified in the psychiatric or psychological field and who contracts with the authorizing law enforcement agency, as being free from any impairment, as set forth in the current edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders of the American Psychiatric Association at the time of the examination.
- The proposed legislation requires the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) to conduct computer searches and criminal history record checks and to process fingerprints for any faculty and staff members at an LEA who may want to carry a concealed handgun on school grounds.
- TBI will be able to comply with requirements within existing resources and fees charged to applicants will offset any costs borne by the agency.

- LEAs will be able to update their policies and comply with the proposed legislation within existing resources. Any fiscal impact is estimated to be not significant.

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

/ah