
DIGEST

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HB 175 Original

2023 Regular Session

Boyd

Abstract: Prohibits the carrying of firearms into hospitals, mental health facilities, or community health centers with exceptions for employees with concealed handgun permits and security officers.

Present law (R.S. 14:402.1) provides for the crime of taking contraband into hospitals. Further provides that no one shall introduce or attempt to introduce upon the grounds or buildings of any hospital or related facility, except through regular channels as authorized by the administrator of the hospital, any of the following:

- (1) Any intoxicating beverage or beverage which causes or may cause an intoxicating effect.
- (2) Any controlled dangerous substance that has not been prescribed or recommended in accordance with present law (Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Law at R.S. 40:961 et seq.).
- (3) Any firearm or other instrumentality customarily considered a dangerous weapon when possessed by a person who is prohibited from possessing the firearm or instrumentality pursuant to state or federal law.

Proposed law retains present law, but amends the firearm provision to prohibit the carrying of any firearm into a hospital as well as any mental health facility or community health center, regardless of whether the person is otherwise prohibited from possessing the firearm.

Proposed law provides exceptions to the firearm prohibition for the following individuals:

- (1) Any employee of a hospital, mental health facility, community health center, or related facility who possesses a firearm in accordance with a concealed handgun permit issued pursuant to present law (R.S. 40:1379.3).
- (2) A security officer who is employed or sanctioned and approved by any hospital, mental health facility, community health center, or related facility to protect a person, property, or both, provided the officer successfully completes the La. Commission on Law Enforcement's firearms training for peace officers of this state, including annual recertification of such training.

(Amends R.S. 14:402.1(A))