DIGEST

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HB 721 Original

2024 Regular Session

Ventrella

Abstract: Provides for the carrying of a concealed weapon in a school or on a school campus by a certified teacher or school administrator who is employed by a school district and possesses a valid concealed handgun permit.

Present law (R.S. 14:95) provides for the crime of illegal carrying of weapons.

Proposed law retains present law.

<u>Present law</u> provides that one of the circumstances that constitutes the illegal carrying of weapons is the intentional possession or use by any person of a dangerous weapon on a school campus during regular school hours or on a school bus.

<u>Present law</u> provides for exceptions to this circumstance as follows:

- (1) A peace officer as defined by <u>present law</u> (R.S. 14:30(B)) in the performance of his official duties.
- (2) A school official or employee acting during the normal course of his employment or a student acting under the direction of such school official or employee.
- (3) Any person having the written permission of the principal or school board and engaged in competition or in marksmanship or safety instruction.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> and provides an additional exception for any certified teacher or administrator pursuant to proposed law.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that <u>present law</u> (R.S. 14:95) shall not prohibit the carrying of a concealed handgun in a school or on a school campus by any certified teacher or school administrator who is employed by a school district and possesses a valid concealed handgun permit pursuant to <u>present law</u> (R.S. 40:1379.3).

Present law (R.S. 40:1379.3) provides for statewide permits for concealed handguns.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law (R.S. 40:1379.3(N)) provides for locations where a person cannot bring a concealed

handgun. Further provides that one of these locations is any school, school campus, or school bus as defined in present law (R.S. 14:95.6).

<u>Proposed law</u> amends <u>present law</u> to provide an exception for any certified teacher or school administrator who is employed by a school district and possesses a valid concealed handgun permit pursuant to present law (R.S. 40:1379.3).

(Amends R.S. 40:1379.3(N)(11); Adds R.S. 14:95(A)(4)(b)(iv) and (J))