



SECOND AMENDMENT PROTECTION ACT (H652)

To protect children, state law prohibits concealed firearms at all schools, including places of worship that have an associated school. This is sound public policy. Removing this protection puts school children at increased risk regardless of whether the firearms are allowed during curricular and extracurricular activities. For example, it would increase the potential for guns to be mistakenly left behind on school property.

HOW H652 WEAKENS OUR GUN LAWS

- Increases the risk of serious injury to school children. There are many documented instances of firearms owners accidentally leaving their firearms behind on school grounds in restrooms, classrooms, and gymnasiums.¹ In one April 2017 incident, administrators found a loaded gun in the purse of an intoxicated kindergarten teacher.²
- Legitimizes further expansion of weapons at schools by chipping away at the prohibition of guns on school property. It effectively sets a precedent for private schools unaffiliated with religious places of worship to argue that they also should be exempt from the firearms prohibition. (NCGV opposes guns in all K-12 schools.)
- Weakens NC's concealed carry weapons permitting system by making it easier to renew a permit without an in-person firearms safety and training course if renewed within a certain amount of time. Given that permits last five years, we need to strengthen our permitting system, not weaken it.
- Allows on-duty emergency medical services personnel working with law enforcement to carry concealed if they meet certain criteria. We do not need more people carrying deadly weapons in emergency situations.

¹ Drane K. Every Incident of Mishandled Guns in Schools. March 2, 2020. <https://bit.ly/3dXVex2>

² Associated Press. Kindergarten teacher arrested after gun found in classroom. March 31, 2017. <https://bit.ly/31Nf63u>

GUNS IN RELIGIOUS PLACES OF WORSHIP

- Guns are not needed in religious places of worship in the first place. Increasing the likelihood that places of worship become the site of wild-west-style shootouts does not protect worshippers. Civilians, armed or otherwise, rarely stop mass shootings. Further, mass shootings are more likely to occur in the home, rather than in a public place. Between January 2009 and July 2015, 70 percent of US shootings that killed four or more people occurred in a home, and 57 percent involved an intimate partner or a family member.³
- There are many security-training programs available to church security guards to learn how to disarm a gunman without using a weapon at all. There are also non-lethal options, such as pepper spray.
- An FBI study of 160 active shooter incidents from 2000 to 2013 found that only one was stopped by an individual with a valid firearm permit. In contrast, 21 incidents were stopped by unarmed citizens.⁴
- The “Good Guy with a Gun” myth has been debunked by multiple studies, including a 2017 National Bureau of Economic Research study that showed right-to-carry laws actually increase rates of violent crime.⁵
- When armed civilians try to intervene, it often goes wrong. In one Las Vegas shooting, an armed couple’s only victims were people who were armed and drew their guns instead of fleeing.⁶ In an Arizona shooting, an armed civilian almost shot civilian bystanders who were trying to intervene, rather than the gunman.⁷

³ Jeltson M. We’re Missing the Big Picture on Mass Shootings. August 25, 2015. <https://bit.ly/3iB9jE9>

⁴ Defilippis E., Hughes D. Commentary: Gun-Rights Advocates Say Places That Ban Guns Attract Mass Shooters. The Data Says They’re Wrong. June 18, 2015. <https://bit.ly/2NWkvgy>

⁵ Donohue J., Aneja A., Weber K. Right-to-Carry Laws and Violent Crime: A Comprehensive Assessment Using Panel Data and a State-Level Synthetic Control Analysis. November, 2018. <https://bit.ly/38zLwQ8>

⁶ NBC News. Two Cops, Three Others Killed in Las Vegas Shooting Spree. June 8, 2014. <https://nbcnews.to/2VSv6gH>

⁷ Saletan W. Armed Giffords Hero Nearly Shot Wrong Man. January 11, 2011. <https://nbcnews.to/2Z335F8>