

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2021**

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SENATE BILL 43

Short Title: Protect Religious Meeting Places. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Britt, Daniel, and Johnson (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

February 3, 2021

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT TO ENACT THE RELIGIOUS ASSEMBLY SECURITY AND PROTECTION ACT
OF 2021.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. This act shall be known as "The Religious Assembly Security and Protection Act of 2021."

SECTION 2. G.S. 14-269.2(a) is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

"(1c) School operating hours. – Any time when curricular or extracurricular activities are taking place on the premises and any time when the premises are being used for educational, instructional, or school-sponsored activities."

SECTION 3. G.S. 14-269.2 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

"(k1) For the purposes of this subsection, property owned by a local board of education or county commission shall not be construed as a building that is a place of religious worship as defined in G.S. 14-54.1. The provisions of this section shall not apply to a person who has a concealed handgun permit that is valid under Article 54B of this Chapter, or who is exempt from obtaining a permit pursuant to that Article, if all of the following conditions apply:

(1) The person possesses and carries a handgun on educational property other than an institution of higher education as defined by G.S. 116-143.1 or a nonpublic, postsecondary educational institution.

(2) The educational property is the location of both a school and a building that is a place of religious worship as defined in G.S. 14-54.1.

(3) The weapon is a handgun.

(4) The handgun is only possessed and carried on educational property outside of the school operating hours."

SECTION 4. G.S. 14-415.11(c) reads as rewritten:

"(c) Except as provided in G.S. 14-415.27, a permit does not authorize a person to carry a concealed handgun in any of the following:

(1) Areas prohibited by G.S. 14-269.2, ~~14-269.3, and 14-277.2~~ except as allowed under G.S. 14-269.2(k1).

(1a) Areas prohibited by G.S. 14-269.3 and G.S. 14-277.2.

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SECTION 5. This act becomes effective December 1, 2021.

