

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 18.2-287.4 of the Code of Virginia, relating to carrying assault firearms in*
 3 *public areas prohibited; penalty.*

4 [S 880]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That § 18.2-287.4 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**8 **§ 18.2-287.4. Carrying assault firearms in public areas prohibited; penalty.**

9 It ~~shall be~~ is unlawful for any person to carry a ~~loaded (a)~~ *any of the following on or about his person on*
 10 *any public street, road, alley, sidewalk, or public right-of-way or in any public park or any other place of*
 11 *whatever nature that is open to the public:*

12 1. A semi-automatic center-fire rifle ~~or pistol~~ that expels single or multiple projectiles by action of an
 13 explosion of a combustible material and is equipped at the time of the offense with a magazine that will hold
 14 more than 20 rounds of ammunition or designed by the manufacturer to accommodate a silencer or equipped
 15 with a folding stock ~~or (b)~~ with a fixed magazine capacity in excess of 10 rounds;

16 2. A semi-automatic center-fire rifle that expels single or multiple projectiles by action of an explosion of
 17 a combustible material that has the ability to accept a detachable magazine and has one of the following
 18 characteristics: (i) a folding, telescoping, or collapsible stock; (ii) a pistol grip that protrudes conspicuously
 19 beneath the action of the rifle; (iii) a second handgrip or a protruding grip that can be held by the non-
 20 trigger hand; (iv) a grenade launcher; (v) a flare launcher; (vi) a sound suppressor; (vii) a flash suppressor;
 21 (viii) a muzzle brake; (ix) a muzzle compensator; (x) a threaded barrel capable of accepting (a) a sound
 22 suppressor, (b) a flash suppressor, (c) a muzzle brake, or (d) a muzzle compensator; or (xi) any
 23 characteristic of like kind as enumerated in clauses (i) through (x);

24 3. A semi-automatic shotgun that expels single or multiple projectiles by action of an explosion of a
 25 combustible material that has one of the following characteristics: (i) a folding, telescoping, or collapsible
 26 stock, (ii) a pistol grip that protrudes conspicuously beneath the action of the shotgun, (iii) the ability to
 27 accept a detachable magazine, (iv) a fixed magazine capacity in excess of seven rounds, or (v) any
 28 characteristic of like kind as enumerated in clauses (i) through (iv); or

29 4. A shotgun with a magazine that will hold more than seven rounds of the longest ammunition for which
 30 it is chambered ~~on or about his person on any public street, road, alley, sidewalk, public right-of-way, or in~~
 31 ~~any public park or any other place of whatever nature that is open to the public in the Cities of Alexandria,~~
 32 ~~Chesapeake, Fairfax, Falls Church, Newport News, Norfolk, Richmond, or Virginia Beach or in the Counties~~
 33 ~~of Arlington, Fairfax, Henrico, Loudoun, or Prince William.~~

34 The provisions of this section shall not apply to law-enforcement officers; ~~licensed security guards, in the~~
 35 ~~performance of their lawful duties, military personnel in the performance of their lawful duties, or any person~~
 36 ~~having a valid concealed handgun permit any member of a cadet corps who is recognized by a public~~
 37 ~~institution of higher education while such member is in the performance of sanctioned military training or~~
 38 ~~such member is participating in an official ceremonial event for the Commonwealth, or to any person actually~~
 39 ~~engaged in lawful hunting or lawful recreational shooting activities at an established shooting range or~~
 40 ~~shooting contest. The provisions of this section shall not apply to a firearm that has been rendered~~
 41 ~~permanently inoperable, an antique firearm as defined in § 18.2-308.2:2, or a curio or relic as defined in §~~
 42 ~~18.2-308.2:2.~~

43 Any person violating the provisions of this section ~~shall be~~ is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

44 ~~The Except for the exemption in subdivision C 2 of § 18.2-308, the exemptions set forth in §§ § 18.2-308~~
 45 ~~and 18.2-308.016 shall apply, mutatis mutandis, to the provisions of this section.~~

46 **2. That the provisions of this act may result in a net increase in periods of imprisonment or**
 47 **commitment. Pursuant to § 30-19.1:4 of the Code of Virginia, the estimated amount of the necessary**
 48 **appropriation cannot be determined for periods of imprisonment in state adult correctional facilities;**
 49 **therefore, Chapter 2 of the Acts of Assembly of 2024, Special Session I, requires the Virginia Criminal**
 50 **Sentencing Commission to assign a minimum fiscal impact of \$50,000. Pursuant to § 30-19.1:4 of the**
 51 **Code of Virginia, the estimated amount of the necessary appropriation cannot be determined for**
 52 **periods of commitment to the custody of the Department of Juvenile Justice.**

ENROLLED

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