

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 18.2-308.7 of the Code of Virginia, relating to possession or transportation of*
 3 *certain firearms by certain persons; penalty.*

4 [H 1525]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That § 18.2-308.7 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**8 **§ 18.2-308.7. Possession, transportation, or purchase of certain firearms by certain persons; penalty.**9 *A. For the purposes of this section:*

10 *"Assault firearm" means any (i) semi-automatic centerfire rifle or handgun that expels single or multiple*
 11 *projectiles by action of an explosion of a combustible material and is equipped at the time of the offense with*
 12 *a magazine that will hold more than 20 rounds of ammunition or designed by the manufacturer to*
 13 *accommodate a silencer or equipped with a folding stock or (ii) shotgun with a magazine that will hold more*
 14 *than seven rounds of the longest ammunition for which it is chambered.*

15 *"Handgun" means any pistol, revolver, or other firearm originally designed, made, and intended to fire*
 16 *single or multiple projectiles by means of an explosion of a combustible material from one or more barrels*
 17 *when held in one hand.*

18 *B. It shall be is unlawful for any person under younger than 18 years of age to knowingly and*
 19 *intentionally possess or transport a handgun or assault firearm anywhere in the Commonwealth. For the*
 20 *purposes of this section, "handgun" means any pistol or revolver or other firearm originally designed, made*
 21 *and intended to fire single or multiple projectiles by means of an explosion of a combustible material from*
 22 *one or more barrels when held in one hand and "assault firearm" means any (i) semi-automatic centerfire rifle*
 23 *or pistol which expels single or multiple projectiles by action of an explosion of a combustible material and is*
 24 *equipped at the time of the offense with a magazine which will hold more than 20 rounds of ammunition or*
 25 *designed by the manufacturer to accommodate a silencer or equipped with a folding stock or (ii) shotgun with*
 26 *a magazine which will hold more than seven rounds of the longest ammunition for which it is chambered. A*
 27 *violation of this section shall be a Class 1 misdemeanor.*

28 *C. It is unlawful for any person younger than 21 years of age to knowingly and intentionally purchase a*
 29 *handgun or assault firearm anywhere in the Commonwealth.*

30 *D. A violation of this section is a Class 1 misdemeanor.*31 ~~This section~~ *E. The provisions of subsection B shall not apply to:*

32 1. Any person ~~(i) while in his home or on his property;~~ *(ii) while present in the his home or on the*
 33 *property of his parent, grandparent, or legal guardian; or (iii) while on the property of another who has*
 34 *provided prior permission; and with the prior permission possessing the firearm with the consent of his*
 35 *parent, grandparent, or legal guardian if the person has the landowner's written permission on his person*
 36 *while on such property who owns such firearm;*

37 2. Any person who, while accompanied by an adult, is *present at; or going to and from;* a lawful shooting
 38 range or firearms educational class; ~~provided that the weapons are unloaded while being transported;~~

39 3. Any person *who, while accompanied by an adult, is actually engaged in lawful hunting or going to and*
 40 *from a hunting area or preserve; provided that the weapons are unloaded while being transported; and*

41 4. Any person *while engaged in official training or carrying out his duties in as a law-enforcement officer*
 42 *or as a member of the Armed Forces of the United States or the National Guard of this the Commonwealth or*
 43 *any other state;*

44 5. *Any cadet who is participating in training, competitive, or ceremonial activities as a member of the*
 45 *Corps of Cadets or the Reserve Officers' Training Corps at a public institution of higher education; and*

46 6. *Any active duty law-enforcement officer in the course of his duties or an active participant in a Trooper*
 47 *Basic Academy Session administered by the Virginia State Police.*

48 **2. That the provisions of this act may result in a net increase in periods of imprisonment or**
 49 **commitment. Pursuant to § 30-19.1:4 of the Code of Virginia, the estimated amount of the necessary**
 50 **appropriation cannot be determined for periods of imprisonment in state adult correctional facilities;**
 51 **therefore, Chapter 725 of the Acts of Assembly of 2025 requires the Virginia Criminal Sentencing**
 52 **Commission to assign a minimum fiscal impact of \$50,000. Pursuant to § 30-19.1:4 of the Code of**
 53 **Virginia, the estimated amount of the necessary appropriation cannot be determined for periods of**
 54 **commitment to the custody of the Department of Juvenile Justice.**

ENROLLED

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