SENATE FILE NO. SF0109

Freedom of teachers in protecting students.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Barnard, Case, Coe, Dockstader,
Driskill, Hicks and Landen and
Representative(s) Eklund, Greene and Teeters

A BILL

for

- 1 AN ACT relating to school safety and security; allowing
- 2 possession of firearms by teachers on school property;
- 3 creating a process for school districts to approve
- 4 possession of firearms on school property; creating a
- 5 process for revocation of permission to carry firearms on
- 6 school property; requiring minimum qualifications for
- 7 application; requiring training; providing rulemaking
- 8 authority to school districts; making conforming
- 9 amendments; and providing for an effective date.

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11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:

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13 **Section 1.** W.S. 21-3-132 is created to read:

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21-3-132. Possession of firearms on school property.

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1 (a) The board of trustees in each school district may

2 adopt rules and regulations to allow possession of firearms

3 by teachers possessing valid concealed carry permits under

4 W.S. 6-8-104(a)(ii) on or in any property or facility owned

5 or leased by the school district in accordance with this

6 section.

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8 (b) As used in this section, "teacher" means any

9 person employed under contract by the board of trustees of

10 a school district as a certified professional employee.

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12 (c) Prior to adoption of any rules and regulations to

13 allow the possession of firearms in accordance with this

14 section, the board of trustees shall hold a minimum of two

15 (2) public hearings, with the time and location of the

16 hearings published in a newspaper of statewide or local

17 distribution. The notification shall be published in

18 advance of the hearings to allow for public participation.

19 The hearings shall be conducted to receive public comment

20 on the school district's participation in this program. The

21 board of trustees shall specifically notify the parents and

22 guardians of students attending school in the district of

2

23 the date, time and nature of the public hearings.

24

1 (d) The rules and regulations required by subsection

2 (a) of this section shall at a minimum:

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4 (i) Establish a process for teachers to apply

5 and obtain permission to possess or carry a firearm on

6 school property in accordance with this section;

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8 (ii) Establish a process to conduct a personal

9 interview of the applicant by the principal of the school

10 and at least two (2) board trustees. If the applicant is a

11 principal, the superintendent of the school district shall

12 interview the applicant together with the two (2) trustees.

13 The principal or the superintendent and the trustees shall

14 report to the entire board regarding the contents of the

15 interview;

16

17 (iii) Establish a process to immediately revoke

18 permission to possess or carry a firearm on school property

19 upon a finding of reasonable cause by the principal that it

20 is necessary or if the principal has been granted

21 permission to carry a firearm, the district superintendent

22 may revoke permission upon a finding of reasonable cause.

23 The process shall include a review to be conducted by the

24 board of trustees of the immediate revocation and shall

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1 include an opportunity for the teacher to request

2 reinstatement and present any information pertinent to the

3 request. The board of trustees shall ratify the decision

4 made by the principal or superintendent to revoke

5 permission to carry a firearm on school property or shall

6 reinstate permission if deemed appropriate.

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8 (e) Any applicant under this section shall, at a

9 minimum, meet the following qualifications prior to

10 applying to any board of trustees for permission to carry

11 or possess a firearm on school property under this section:

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13 (i) Possess and provide proof of a valid

14 concealed carry permit granted under W.S. 6-8-104(a)(ii);

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16 (ii) Complete a mental evaluation screening in a

17 satisfactory manner as prescribed by rule and regulation of

18 the board of trustees;

19

20 (iii) Provide proof of completion of no less

21 than sixteen (16) hours of firearm training approved by the

22 peace officer standards and training council. The board of

23 trustees may establish additional training requirements by

24 rule and regulation;

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1

2 (iv) Provide proof of completion of minimum 3 shooting qualifications and proficiency requirements 4 established by rule and regulation of the board of 5 trustees.

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Any person granted permission to carry or possess 7 a firearm on school property pursuant to this section shall 8 9 be required to complete continued firearm training as required by rule and regulation of the board of trustees. 10 At a minimum, the continued training shall consist 11 sixteen (16) hours of firearms training approved by the 12 peace officer standards every five (5) years.

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13

15 (q) Any person granted permission to carry or possess a firearm on school property pursuant to this section shall 16 17 maintain the firearm on his person or in a concealed biometric container or lock box. The container or lock box 18 shall at all times be within the direct control of the 19 20 individual at all times. The individual shall 21 responsible for purchase and ownership of the weapon and 22 frangible ammunition shall be utilized.

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23

1 (h) Any person granted permission to carry or possess

2 a firearm on school property pursuant to this section shall

3 annually complete at least one (1) four (4) hour crisis

4 management training program. The training shall include

5 participation of school resource officers, if appropriate,

6 and all law enforcement agencies with jurisdiction over the

7 area in which the school is located.

8

9 (j) The board of trustees may suspend the program and

10 permission granted to any individual for a period of three

11 (3) months to investigate accusations or problems with the

12 program.

13

14 (k) The board of trustees shall maintain a list of

15 the location and names of all individuals who receive

16 permission to carry firearms in accordance with this

17 section. The board of trustees shall notify all law

18 enforcement agencies with jurisdiction over the area of the

19 location in which the school is located and names of all

20 certified personnel with permission to carry firearms on

21 school property. The list of individuals shall not be

22 subject to any public record inspection as provided by W.S.

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23 16-4-203(b)(vi).

24

- 1 (m) Nothing in this section shall authorize school
- 2 district personnel to carry a firearm, concealed or
- 3 otherwise, on or into any facility or other school
- 4 district property without the express approval of the board
- 5 of trustees and notification of parties as required by this
- 6 section.

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- 8 (n) Nothing in this section shall authorize a student
- 9 of a school district to carry a firearm, concealed or
- 10 otherwise, on or into any facility or a school district.

11

- 12 **Section 2.** W.S. 6-8-104(t)(vi) and (ix) and 6-8-401(c)
- 13 are amended to read:

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- 15 6-8-104. Wearing or carrying concealed weapons;
- 16 penalties; exceptions; permits.

17

- 18 (t) No person authorized to carry a concealed weapon
- 19 pursuant to paragraphs (a)(ii) through (iv) of this section
- 20 shall carry a concealed firearm into:

21

- 22 (vi) Any school, college or professional
- 23 athletic event not related to firearms, except as provided

7

24 in W.S. 21-3-132;

1

2 (ix) Any elementary or secondary school

3 facility, except as provided in W.S. 21-3-132;

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5 6-8-401. Firearm, weapon and ammunition regulation

6 and prohibition by state.

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(c) The sale, transfer, purchase, delivery, taxation, 8 9 manufacture, ownership, transportation, storage, use and possession of firearms, weapons and ammunition shall be 10 authorized, regulated and prohibited by the state, and 11 regulation thereof is preempted by the state. Except as 12 authorized by W.S. 15-1-103(a)(xviii) and 21-3-132, no 13 city, town, county, political subdivision or any other 14 entity shall authorize, regulate or prohibit the sale, 15 transfer, purchase, delivery, taxation, manufacture, 16 17 ownership, transportation, storage, use, carrying or possession of firearms, weapons, accessories, components or 18 ammunition except as specifically provided by this chapter. 19 20 This section shall not affect zoning or other ordinances 21 which encompass firearms businesses along with other 22 businesses. Zoning and other ordinances which are designed for the purpose of restricting or prohibiting the sale, 23 24 purchase, transfer or manufacture of firearms or ammunition

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1 as a method of regulating firearms or ammunition are in

2 conflict with this section and are prohibited.

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4 Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2014.

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6 (END)