

HB 2007 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Judiciary

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Meeting Dates: 3/22, 3/22, 3/28

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Provides that a public building includes the grounds adjacent to each such building. Provides that a policy adopted by a school or university board prohibiting firearms on school grounds also includes a building and adjacent grounds to the school grounds. Permits the governing body of a city, county, district, or any other entity that is considered a "municipal corporation" to adopt a policy, ordinance, or regulation providing that the affirmative defense of having concealed handgun license does not apply to the possession of firearms within buildings and on grounds adjacent to buildings owned or controlled by the governing body. Requires a governing body that adopts such policy to: post a clearly visible sign, at all normal points of entry to the buildings and grounds subject to the policy, indicating that the affirmative defense does not apply; and post a notice on the governing body's website identifying all buildings and grounds subject to the policy.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Requires the governing board of a university or college, school board, or the governing body of a city, county, or district that adopts a policy precluding the concealed handgun license affirmative defense to install metal detectors at all entrances to any building subject to the policy.

BACKGROUND:

Senate Bill 554 A during the 2021 legislative session expanded the authority of a city, county, metropolitan service district, or port operating a commercial airport to prohibit the possession of firearms within public buildings to individuals who were exempt from the prohibition due to holding a concealed handgun license. SB 554 A's definition of "public buildings" did not include the grounds adjacent to each such building.

House Bill 2007 authorizes governing bodies of certain public entities that own or control public buildings to adopt a policy, ordinance or regulation precluding the concealed handgun license affirmative defense to possession of firearms in public buildings and expands the definition of public buildings to includes the grounds adjacent to each such building.