

2018 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 402

BY SENATOR RISER

WEAPONS. Clarifies that both volunteer and paid security guards may serve churches or houses of worship and provides for tactical training requirements for certain concealed handgun permittees. (8/1/18)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 40:1379.3(U)(2) and (5), relative to concealed handguns; to
3 provide relative to concealed handguns carried by authorized persons in houses of
4 worship; to provide for certain tactical training; to provide for requirements for
5 certain religious organizations to allow concealed handguns to be carried in places
6 of worship pursuant to valid handgun permits; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 40:1379.3(U)(2) and (5) are hereby amended and reenacted to read
9 as follows:

10 §1379.3. Statewide permits for concealed handguns; application procedures;
11 definitions

12 * * *

13 U. * * *

14 (2) The provisions of this Subsection shall not be construed to limit or
15 prohibit any church, synagogue, or mosque from employing or designating as
16 armed security guards persons who are either certified law enforcement officers or
17 ~~who are~~ authorized to carry concealed handguns pursuant to the provisions of this

1 Section. Armed security guards as provided in this Paragraph may be
 2 compensated, noncompensated, or a volunteer.

3 * * *

4 (5) Any church, synagogue, or mosque authorizing the carrying of concealed
 5 handguns pursuant to the provisions of this Subsection shall require an additional
 6 eight ~~hour~~ **hours of** tactical training for those persons wishing to carry concealed
 7 handguns in the church, synagogue, or mosque if required by the entity which has
 8 authority over the religious organization pursuant to Paragraph (1) of this
 9 Subsection or by the owner of the building's liability insurance policy. The
 10 training shall be conducted annually.

The original instrument was prepared by Carla S. Roberts. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Ashley Menou.

DIGEST

SB 402 Engrossed

2018 Regular Session

Riser

Present law, providing for concealed handgun permits, specifies that no concealed handgun may be carried into and no concealed handgun permit issued pursuant to present law shall authorize or entitle a permittee to carry a concealed handgun in any church, synagogue, mosque, or other similar place of worship, except as provided for in present law.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law exception provides for the carrying of a concealed handgun in any church, synagogue, mosque, or other similar place of worship, if the entity which owns or has authority over the church, synagogue, or mosque has authorized any person issued a valid concealed handgun permit to carry a concealed handgun in such place of worship. Present law requires the pastor, priest, minister, or other church authority to inform the congregation of the authorization. Specifies that present law will not be construed to authorize the carrying of a concealed handgun in a church, synagogue, or mosque located on the property of any school or school property.

Present law further provides that present law will not be construed to limit or prohibit any church, synagogue, mosque, or other similar place of worship from employing armed security guards who are certified law enforcement officers or who are authorized to carry concealed handguns.

Proposed law retains present law and clarifies that the armed security guards may be employed or designated, paid or a volunteer, so long as the security guards are either certified law enforcement officers or authorized to carry concealed handguns.

Present law provides that any church, synagogue, or mosque authorizing the carrying of concealed handguns will require an additional eight-hour tactical training class for those persons wishing to carry concealed handguns in the church, synagogue, or mosque. Present law requires the training to be conducted annually.

Proposed law retains present law but provides that the eight-hour tactical training class is required only if the entity which has authority over the religious organization or the owner of the building's liability insurance policy requires the additional training.

Effective August 1, 2018.

(Amends R.S. 40:1379.3(U)(2) and (5))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Judiciary B to the original bill

1. Makes technical changes.