

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 846 Session of 2017

INTRODUCED BY GREENLEAF, RAFFERTY, BOSCOLA AND YUDICHAK,
AUGUST 29, 2017

REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, AUGUST 29, 2017

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in obstructing governmental
3 operations, further providing for the offenses of weapons or
4 implements for escape and for contraband; and making a
5 conforming amendment.

6 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
7 hereby enacts as follows:

8 Section 1. Sections 5122, 5123 and 6105(b) of Title 18 of
9 the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended to read:

10 § 5122. Weapons [or], implements for escape or dangerous
11 material.

12 (a) Offenses defined.--

13 (1) [A person commits a misdemeanor of the first] An
14 individual commits a felony of the second degree if he
15 [unlawfully introduces within a detention facility,
16 correctional institution or mental hospital, or unlawfully
17 provides an inmate thereof with any weapon, tool, implement,
18 or other thing] delivers to a confined person a weapon,
19 implement for escape, dangerous material or other item which

1 may be used for escape.

2 (2) [An inmate] A confined person commits a [misdemeanor
3 of the first] felony of the second degree if he [unlawfully
4 procures, makes or otherwise provides himself with, or
5 unlawfully has in his possession or under his control, any
6 weapon, tool, implement or other thing] possesses a weapon,
7 implement for escape, dangerous material or other item which
8 may be used for escape.

9 (b) [Definitions.--

10 (1) As used in this section, the word "unlawfully" means
11 surreptitiously or contrary to law, regulation or order of
12 the detaining authority.

13 (2) As used in this section, the word "weapon" means any
14 implement readily capable of lethal use and shall include any
15 firearm, ammunition, knife, dagger, razor, other cutting or
16 stabbing implement or club, including any item which has been
17 modified or adopted so that it can be used as a firearm,
18 ammunition, knife, dagger, razor, other cutting or stabbing
19 implement, or club. The word "firearm" includes an unloaded
20 firearm and the unassembled components of a firearm.]

21 Definitions.--As used in this section, the following words
22 and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this
23 subsection:

24 "Confined person." An individual committed pursuant to a
25 court order to a facility, regardless of whether the individual
26 is temporarily absent from the facility due to medical
27 treatment, transportation, court appearance or other reason for
28 a temporary absence.

29 "Dangerous material." Any incendiary material or device,
30 highly flammable or caustic liquid, explosive, bullet or other

1 material readily capable of causing death or serious bodily
2 injury.

3 "Delivers." The transfer of a weapon, implement for escape
4 or dangerous material to a confined person in a facility. The
5 term includes taking or introducing a weapon, implement for
6 escape or dangerous material into a facility, on land granted
7 to, owned by or leased by the Commonwealth or a political
8 subdivision that is related to the confinement of persons. The
9 term includes putting a weapon, implement for escape or
10 dangerous material in a place where it may be obtained by a
11 confined person.

12 "Facility." Correctional institution, forensic unit of a
13 State hospital, youth development center, youth forestry camp or
14 other facility for the detention or incarceration of individuals
15 pursuant to court order, building appurtenant thereto or any
16 other place where a confined person is located.

17 "Implement for escape." A tool, implement, device, equipment
18 or other item that can facilitate, aid or conceal an escape or
19 attempted escape by a confined person.

20 "Weapon." An implement readily capable of lethal use,
21 including any firearm, knife, dagger, razor, other cutting or
22 stabbing implement or club. The term includes any item which has
23 been modified or adapted so that it can be used as a firearm,
24 knife, dagger, razor, other cutting or stabbing implement or
25 club. For purposes of this definition, the term "firearm"
26 includes an unloaded firearm or the unassembled components of a
27 firearm.

28 § 5123. Contraband.

29 (a) [Controlled] Delivery of controlled substance contraband
30 to confined persons prohibited.--[A person] An individual

1 commits a felony of the second degree if he [sells, gives,
2 transmits or furnishes to any convict in a prison, or inmate in
3 a mental hospital, or gives away in or brings into any prison,
4 mental hospital, or any building appurtenant thereto, or on the
5 land granted to or owned or leased by the Commonwealth or county
6 for the use and benefit of the prisoners or inmates, or puts in
7 any place where it may be secured by a convict of a prison,
8 inmate of a mental hospital, or employee thereof, any] delivers
9 a controlled substance included in Schedules I through V of the
10 act of April 14, 1972 (P.L.233, No.64), known as The Controlled
11 Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act, to a confined person
12 or employee of a facility (except the ordinary hospital supply
13 of the [prison or mental hospital] facility) without a written
14 permit signed by the physician of [such institution] the
15 facility, specifying the quantity and quality of the substance
16 which may be furnished to [any convict, inmate, or employee in
17 the prison or mental hospital,] the confined person, the name of
18 the [prisoner, inmate, or employee for whom,] confined person
19 and the time when the same may be furnished[, which permit shall
20 be delivered to and kept by the warden or superintendent of the
21 prison or mental hospital].

22 (a.1) Mandatory minimum penalty.--[Any person]

23 (1) An individual convicted of a violation of subsection
24 (a) shall be sentenced to a minimum sentence of at least two
25 years of total confinement, notwithstanding any other
26 provision of this title or any other statute to the contrary.
27 Nothing in this subsection shall prevent the sentencing court
28 from imposing a sentence greater than that provided in this
29 subsection, up to the maximum penalty prescribed by this
30 title for a felony of the second degree. There shall be no

1 authority in any court to impose on an offender to which this
2 subsection is applicable any lesser sentence than provided
3 for in subsection (a) or to place such offender on probation
4 or to suspend sentence. Sentencing guidelines promulgated by
5 the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing shall not supersede
6 the mandatory sentences provided in this subsection. If a
7 sentencing court refuses to apply this subsection where
8 applicable, the Commonwealth shall have the right to
9 appellate review of the action of the sentencing court. The
10 appellate court shall vacate the sentence and remand the case
11 to the sentencing court for imposition of a sentence in
12 accordance with this subsection if it finds that the sentence
13 was imposed in violation of this subsection.

14 (2) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to
15 preclude prosecution for a more serious violation of The
16 Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act.

17 (a.2) Possession of controlled substance contraband by
18 [inmate] confined persons prohibited.--[A prisoner or inmate] A
19 confined person commits a felony of the second degree if he
20 unlawfully has in his possession or under his control any
21 controlled substance in violation of section 13(a)(16) of The
22 Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act. For
23 purposes of this subsection, no amount shall be deemed de
24 minimis.

25 (b) [Money] Delivery of money to inmates prohibited.--[A
26 person] An individual commits a misdemeanor of the [third] first
27 degree if he [gives or furnishes money to any inmate confined in
28 a State or county] delivers money to an inmate committed to a
29 correctional institution as defined in section 501 (relating to
30 definitions), provided notice of this prohibition is adequately

1 posted at the institution. [A person] An individual may,
2 however, deposit money with the superintendent, warden, or other
3 authorized individual in charge of a [State or county]
4 correctional institution for the benefit and use of an inmate
5 confined therein, which shall be credited to the inmate's
6 account and expended in accordance with the rules and
7 regulations of the institution. The person making the deposit
8 shall be provided with a written receipt for the amount
9 deposited.

10 (c) [Contraband other than controlled substance.--A person]
11 Delivery of other contraband to confined persons prohibited.--An
12 individual commits a misdemeanor of the first degree if he
13 [sells, gives or furnishes to any convict in a prison, or inmate
14 in a mental hospital, or gives away in or brings into any
15 prison, mental hospital, or any building appurtenant thereto, or
16 on the land granted to or owned or leased by the Commonwealth or
17 county for the use and benefit of the prisoners or inmates, or
18 puts in any place where it may be secured by a convict of a
19 prison, inmate of a mental hospital, or employee thereof,]
20 delivers to a confined person:

21 (1) any kind of spirituous or fermented liquor, poison
22 or medicine [or poison] (except the ordinary hospital supply
23 of the [prison or mental hospital] facility) without a
24 written permit signed by the physician of [such institution]
25 the facility, specifying the quantity and quality of the
26 substance which may be furnished to [any convict, inmate or
27 employee in the prison or mental hospital, the name of the
28 prisoner, inmate or employee for whom,] the confined person,
29 the name of the confined person and the time when the same
30 may be furnished[, which permit shall be delivered to and

1 kept by the warden or superintendent of the prison or mental
2 hospital.]; or

3 (2) an unauthorized item that is readily capable of
4 concealing an item prohibited under section 5122 (relating to
5 weapons, implements for escape or dangerous material) or this
6 section.

7 (c.1) [Telecommunication] Delivery of telecommunication
8 devices to [inmates] confined persons prohibited.--A person
9 commits a misdemeanor of the first degree if, without the
10 written permission of superintendent, warden or otherwise
11 authorized individual in charge of a [correctional institution,
12 prison, jail, detention facility or mental hospital, he sells,
13 gives or furnishes] facility, he delivers to any [inmate]
14 confined person in a [correctional institution, prison, jail,
15 detention facility or mental hospital, or any building
16 appurtenant thereto] facility, or puts in any place where it may
17 be obtained by [an inmate of a correctional institution, prison,
18 jail, detention facility or mental hospital] a confined person,
19 any telecommunication device.

20 (c.2) Possession of telecommunication devices by [inmates]
21 confined persons prohibited.--[An inmate in a correctional
22 institution, prison, jail, detention facility or mental
23 hospital, or any building appurtenant thereto,] A confined
24 person in a facility commits a misdemeanor of the first degree
25 if he has in his possession any telecommunication device without
26 the written permission of the superintendent, warden or
27 otherwise authorized individual in charge of [a correctional
28 institution, prison, jail, detention facility or mental
29 hospital] the facility.

30 (c.3) Possession of money or other contraband by a confined

1 person.--A confined person commits a misdemeanor of the first
2 degree if he possesses anything the delivery of which is
3 prohibited under subsection (b) or (c).

4 (d) Drug-sniffing animals.--Any jail or prison may use dogs
5 or other animals trained to sniff [controlled substances or
6 other contraband] anything the delivery of which is prohibited
7 under this section for such purposes in or on any part of the
8 jail or prison at any time.

9 (e) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following
10 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this
11 subsection:

12 "Confined person." An individual committed pursuant to a
13 court order to a facility, regardless of whether the individual
14 is temporarily absent due to medical treatment, transportation,
15 court appearance or other reason for a temporary absence.

16 "Delivers." Sells, gives, transmits, furnishes or otherwise
17 transfers anything prohibited under this section to a confined
18 person in a facility.

19 "Facility." Correctional institution, forensic unit of a
20 State hospital, youth development center, youth forestry camp or
21 other facility for the detention or incarceration of individuals
22 pursuant to court order, building appurtenant thereto or any
23 other place where a confined person is located.

24 ["Inmate." A male or female offender who is committed to,
25 under sentence to or confined in a penal or correctional
26 institution.]

27 "Telecommunication device." Any type of instrument, device,
28 machine or equipment which is capable of transmitting
29 telephonic, electronic, digital, cellular or radio
30 communications or any part of such instrument, device, machine

1 or equipment which is capable of facilitating the transmission
2 of telephonic, electronic, digital, cellular or radio
3 communications. The term shall include, but not be limited to,
4 cellular phones, digital phones and modem equipment devices.

5 § 6105. Persons not to possess, use, manufacture, control, sell
6 or transfer firearms.

7 * * *

8 (b) Enumerated offenses.--The following offenses shall apply
9 to subsection (a):

10 Section 908 (relating to prohibited offensive weapons).

11 Section 911 (relating to corrupt organizations).

12 Section 912 (relating to possession of weapon on school
13 property).

14 Section 2502 (relating to murder).

15 Section 2503 (relating to voluntary manslaughter).

16 Section 2504 (relating to involuntary manslaughter) if
17 the offense is based on the reckless use of a firearm.

18 Section 2702 (relating to aggravated assault).

19 Section 2703 (relating to assault by prisoner).

20 Section 2704 (relating to assault by life prisoner).

21 Section 2709.1 (relating to stalking).

22 Section 2716 (relating to weapons of mass destruction).

23 Section 2901 (relating to kidnapping).

24 Section 2902 (relating to unlawful restraint).

25 Section 2910 (relating to luring a child into a motor
26 vehicle or structure).

27 Section 3121 (relating to rape).

28 Section 3123 (relating to involuntary deviate sexual
29 intercourse).

30 Section 3125 (relating to aggravated indecent assault).

1 Section 3301 (relating to arson and related offenses).

2 Section 3302 (relating to causing or risking
3 catastrophe).

4 Section 3502 (relating to burglary).

5 Section 3503 (relating to criminal trespass) if the
6 offense is graded a felony of the second degree or higher.

7 Section 3701 (relating to robbery).

8 Section 3702 (relating to robbery of motor vehicle).

9 Section 3921 (relating to theft by unlawful taking or
10 disposition) upon conviction of the second felony offense.

11 Section 3923 (relating to theft by extortion) when the
12 offense is accompanied by threats of violence.

13 Section 3925 (relating to receiving stolen property) upon
14 conviction of the second felony offense.

15 Section 4906 (relating to false reports to law
16 enforcement authorities) if the fictitious report involved
17 the theft of a firearm as provided in section 4906(c)(2).

18 Section 4912 (relating to impersonating a public servant)
19 if the person is impersonating a law enforcement officer.

20 Section 4952 (relating to intimidation of witnesses or
21 victims).

22 Section 4953 (relating to retaliation against witness,
23 victim or party).

24 Section 5121 (relating to escape).

25 Section 5122 (relating to weapons [or] implements for
26 escape or dangerous material).

27 Section 5501(3) (relating to riot).

28 Section 5515 (relating to prohibiting of paramilitary
29 training).

30 Section 5516 (relating to facsimile weapons of mass

1 destruction).

2 Section 6110.1 (relating to possession of firearm by
3 minor).

4 Section 6301 (relating to corruption of minors).

5 Section 6302 (relating to sale or lease of weapons and
6 explosives).

7 Any offense equivalent to any of the above-enumerated
8 offenses under the prior laws of this Commonwealth or any
9 offense equivalent to any of the above-enumerated offenses under
10 the statutes of any other state or of the United States.

11 * * *

12 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.