

HOUSE BILL 274

By Goins

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-17-1311, relative to the carrying of weapons.

WHEREAS, the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee has demonstrated its intent to control the entire field of the carrying of firearms within the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature shall have the power to regulate the carrying of firearms as delegated in Article I, Section 26, of the Constitution of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the National Rifle Association has committed, during the period of April 8–14, 2015, to holding its 149<sup>th</sup> meeting of the membership of this organization in Nashville, the capital city of the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, these members attending will travel to Tennessee from parts of all fifty states of these United States; and

WHEREAS, it is expected some ninety thousand members of this organization will attend and participate at this annual meeting, and these members will come from states that allow the carrying of firearms in some form or other; and

WHEREAS, it is reasonable to expect that most of these members attending will be inclined to want to carry a firearm for their personal defense and protection; and

WHEREAS, across the State of Tennessee there is a patchwork of local and State laws concerning the allowance or prohibition of the carrying of firearms within the areas of certain parks and other recreational areas; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-17-1311(b)(1)(H), is amended by deleting the following language:

, while within or on a public park, natural area, historic park, nature trail, campground, forest, greenway, waterway or other similar public place that is owned or operated by the state, a county, a municipality or instrumentality thereof, except as otherwise provided in subsection (d)

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-17-1311(d), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-17-1311(e)(1), is amended by adding the language “remove,” immediately after the language “shall not”.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-17-1311(e)(2), is amended by deleting the subdivision in its entirety.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect April 1, 2015, the public welfare requiring it.