AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39 and 49, relative to permitting certain persons to carry handguns on the property of certain postsecondary institutions.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE 2018 TENNESSEE 4-H CONGRESS:

Section 1: This act expands persons permitted to carry concealed weapons on campuses of Tennessee’s colleges and universities.

Section 2: As enacted, this bill permits full-time students of state public colleges or universities who possess a handgun carry permit to carry a concealed handgun while on property owned, operated, or controlled by the college or university if certain requirements are met.

Section 3: Present law specifies nine classes of persons who are exempt from felony and misdemeanor offenses with regard to possession on any public or private school property, most of which apply to public safety officials and one of which applies to handgun permit holders in recreation areas where school events are occurring, and specifies one additional exemption for nonstudent adults who keep a firearm in their vehicle.

Section 4: A student who carries a handgun on property owned, operated, or controlled by the public institution of higher education is NOT permitted to carry a handgun at the following times and at the following locations:

- Stadiums, gymnasiums, and auditoriums when school-sponsored events are in progress;
- In meetings regarding disciplinary matters;
- A hospital, or an office where medical or mental health services are the primary services provided; and
- Any location where a provision of state or federal law prohibits the carrying of a handgun on that property;

Section 5: Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the public institution of higher education shall be absolutely immune from claims for monetary damages arising solely from or related to a student’s use of, or failure to use, a handgun; provided the student is enrolled by the institution against whom the claim is filed and the student elects to carry the handgun pursuant to this bill.

Section 6: This act shall become effective upon passage by the legislature and approval by the Governor or upon its otherwise becoming a law.

Passed: _____________________
Speaker of the Senate
Tennessee 4-H Congress

_________________________
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Tennessee 4-H Congress

Approved: _____________________
Governor
Tennessee 4-H Congress