Τ	H. B. 4501
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3 4 5 6	(By Delegates Summer, Cooper, O'Neal, Arvon, Shott, Moye, Ambler, Gearheart, Staggers, Miller and Sobonya)
7	[Introduced February 13, 2014; referred to the
8	Committee on Education then the Judiciary.]
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10	A BILL to amend and reenact $\$61-7-11a$ of the Code of West Virginia,
11	1931, as amended, relating to dangerous weapons; persons
12	possessing deadly weapons on premises of educational
13	facilities; and exempting law-enforcement officers acting as
14	security for schools from the prohibitions of this section
15	when certain conditions are met.
16	Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:
17	That §61-7-11a of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended,
18	be amended and reenacted to read as follows:
19	ARTICLE 7. DANGEROUS WEAPONS.
20	§61-7-11a. Possessing deadly weapons on premises of educational
21	facilities; reports by school principals;
22	suspension of driver's license; possessing deadly
23	weapons on premises housing courts of law and in
24	offices of family law master courts.
25	(a) The Legislature hereby finds that the safety and welfare

- of the citizens of this state are inextricably dependent upon assurances of safety for children attending and persons employed by schools in this state and for persons employed by the judicial department of this state. It is for the purpose of providing assurances of safety that subsections (b), (g) and (h) of this section are enacted as a reasonable regulation of the manner in which citizens may exercise the rights accorded to them pursuant to section twenty-two, article three of the Constitution of the State of West Virginia.
- (b) (1) It is unlawful for a person to possess a firearm or other deadly weapon on a school bus as defined in section one, article one, chapter seventeen—a of this code, or in or on a public or private primary or secondary education building, structure, facility or grounds including a vocational education building, structure, facility or grounds where secondary vocational education programs are conducted or at a school—sponsored function.
- 17 (2) This subsection does not apply to:
- 18 (A) A law-enforcement officer acting in his or her official 19 capacity;
- 20 (B) A law-enforcement officer, acting as security for the 21 school, who has met all the requirements set forth by the 22 applicable law-enforcement agency regulating the handling and use 23 of a firearm and who has qualified with that firearm to the 24 standards set by that law-enforcement agency;

- 1 (B) (C) A person specifically authorized by the board of
- 2 education of the county or principal of the school where the
- 3 property is located to conduct programs with valid educational
- 4 purposes;
- $\frac{\text{(C)}}{\text{(D)}}$  A person who, as otherwise permitted by the provisions
- 6 of this article, possesses an unloaded firearm or deadly weapon in
- 7 a motor vehicle or leaves an unloaded firearm or deadly weapon in
- 8 a locked motor vehicle;
- 9 (E) Programs or raffles conducted with the approval of the
- 10 county board of education or school which include the display of
- 11 unloaded firearms;
- 12 <del>(E)</del> (F) The official mascot of West Virginia University,
- 13 commonly known as the Mountaineer, acting in his or her official
- 14 capacity; or
- 15 (F) (G) The official mascot of Parkersburg South High School,
- 16 commonly known as the Patriot, acting in his or her official
- 17 capacity.
- 18 (3) A person violating this subsection is guilty of a felony
- 19 and, upon conviction thereof, shall be imprisoned in a state
- 20 correctional facility for a definite term of years of not less than
- 21 two years nor more than ten years, or fined not more than \$5,000,
- 22 or both.
- 23 (c) It is the duty of the principal of each school subject to
- 24 the authority of the State Board of Education to report a violation

of subsection (b) of this section discovered by the principal to the State Superintendent of Schools within seventy-two hours after the violation occurs. The State Board of Education shall keep and maintain these reports and may prescribe rules establishing policy and procedures for the making and delivery of the reports as required by this subsection. In addition, it is the duty of the principal of each school subject to the authority of the State Board of Education to report a violation of subsection (b) of this section discovered by the principal to the appropriate local office of the Division of Public Safety within seventy-two hours after the violation occurs.

(d) In addition to the methods of disposition provided by article five, chapter forty-nine of this code, a court which adjudicates a person who is fourteen years of age or older as delinquent for a violation of subsection (b) of this section may, in its discretion, order the Division of Motor Vehicles to suspend a driver's license or instruction permit issued to the person for a period of time as the court considers appropriate, not to extend beyond the person's nineteenth birthday. Where the person has not been issued a driver's license or instruction permit by this state, a court may order the Division of Motor Vehicles to deny the person's application for a license or permit for a period of time as the court considers appropriate, not to extend beyond the person's nineteenth birthday. A suspension ordered by the court

- 1 pursuant to this subsection is effective upon the date of entry of
- 2 the order. Where the court orders the suspension of a driver's
- 3 license or instruction permit pursuant to this subsection, the
- 4 court shall confiscate any driver's license or instruction permit
- 5 in the adjudicated person's possession and forward to the Division
- 6 of Motor Vehicles.
- 7 (e) (1) If a person eighteen years of age or older is
- 8 convicted of violating subsection (b) of this section, and if the
- 9 person does not act to appeal the conviction within the time
- 10 periods described in subdivision (2) of this subsection, the
- 11 person's license or privilege to operate a motor vehicle in this
- 12 state shall be revoked in accordance with the provisions of this
- 13 section.
- 14 (2) The clerk of the court in which the person is convicted as
- 15 described in subdivision (1) of this subsection shall forward to
- 16 the commissioner a transcript of the judgment of conviction. If
- 17 the conviction is the judgment of a magistrate court, the
- 18 magistrate court clerk shall forward the transcript when the person
- 19 convicted has not requested an appeal within twenty days of the
- 20 sentencing for the conviction. If the conviction is the judgment
- 21 of a circuit court, the circuit clerk shall forward a transcript of
- 22 the judgment of conviction when the person convicted has not filed
- 23 a notice of intent to file a petition for appeal or writ of error
- 24 within thirty days after the judgment was entered.

(3) If, upon examination of the transcript of the judgment of 1 2 conviction, the commissioner determines that the person was 3 convicted as described in subdivision (1) of this subsection, the 4 commissioner shall make and enter an order revoking the person's 5 license or privilege to operate a motor vehicle in this state for 6 a period of one year or, in the event the person is a student 7 enrolled in a secondary school, for a period of one year or until 8 the person's twentieth birthday, whichever is the greater period. 9 The order shall contain the reasons for the revocation and the 10 revocation period. The order of suspension shall advise the person 11 that because of the receipt of the court's transcript, 12 presumption exists that the person named in the order of suspension 13 is the same person named in the transcript. The commissioner may 14 grant an administrative hearing which substantially complies with 15 the requirements of the provisions of section two, article five-a, 16 chapter seventeen-c of this code upon a preliminary showing that a 17 possibility exists that the person named in the notice 18 conviction is not the same person whose license is being suspended. 19 The request for hearing shall be made within ten days after receipt 20 of a copy of the order of suspension. The sole purpose of this 21 hearing is for the person requesting the hearing to present 22 evidence that he or she is not the person named in the notice. If 23 the commissioner grants an administrative hearing, the commissioner 24 shall stay the license suspension pending the commissioner's order

- 1 resulting from the hearing.
- 2 (4) For the purposes of this subsection, a person is convicted
- 3 when such person enters a plea of guilty or is found guilty by a
- 4 court or jury.
- 5 (f) (1) It is unlawful for a parent, guardian or custodian of
- 6 a person less than eighteen years of age who knows that the person
- 7 is in violation of subsection (b) of this section or has reasonable
- 8 cause to believe that the person's violation of subsection (b) is
- 9 imminent, to fail to immediately report his or her knowledge or
- 10 belief to the appropriate school or law-enforcement officials.
- 11 (2) A person violating this subsection is guilty of a
- 12 misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not more
- 13 than \$1,000, or shall be confined in jail not more than one year,
- 14 or both.
- 15 (g) (1) It is unlawful for a person to possess a firearm or
- 16 other deadly weapon on the premises of a court of law, including
- 17 family courts.
- 18 (2) This subsection does not apply to:
- 19 (A) A law-enforcement officer acting in his or her official
- 20 capacity; and
- 21 (B) A person exempted from the provisions of this subsection
- 22 by order of record entered by a court with jurisdiction over the
- 23 premises or offices.
- 24 (3) A person violating this subsection is guilty of a

- 1 misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not more
- 2 than \$1,000, or shall be confined in jail not more than one year,
- 3 or both.
- 4 (h) (1) It is unlawful for a person to possess a firearm or
- 5 other deadly weapon on the premises of a court of law, including
- 6 family courts, with the intent to commit a crime.
- 7 (2) A person violating this subsection is guilty of a felony
- 8 and, upon conviction thereof, shall be imprisoned in a state
- 9 correctional facility for a definite term of years of not less than
- 10 two years nor more than ten years, or fined not more than \$5,000,
- 11 or both.
- 12 (i) Nothing in this section may be construed to be in conflict
- 13 with the provisions of federal law.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to provide that lawenforcement officers employed as school security be allowed to carry firearms on school property if certain conditions are met.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from the present law, and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.