

Introduced \_\_\_\_\_  
Public Hearing \_\_\_\_\_  
Council Action \_\_\_\_\_  
Executive Action \_\_\_\_\_  
Effective Date \_\_\_\_\_

## County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2015 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. **3**

### Bill No. 8-2015

Introduced by: Calvin Ball, Jennifer Terrasa, and Jon Weinstein

AN ACT to prohibit the carrying of certain weapons in certain County-owned buildings; renaming a certain subtitle; and generally relating to weapons controls in County buildings.

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Introduced and read first time \_\_\_\_\_, 2015. Ordered posted and hearing scheduled.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Having been posted and notice of time & place of hearing & title of Bill having been published according to Charter, the Bill was read for a second time at a public hearing on \_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

This Bill was read the third time on \_\_\_\_\_, 2015 and Passed \_\_\_\_, Passed with amendments \_\_\_\_\_, Failed \_\_\_\_\_.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015 at \_\_\_ a.m./p.m.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Approved by the County Executive \_\_\_\_\_, 2015

\_\_\_\_\_  
Allan H. Kittleman, County Executive

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; TEXT IN SMALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing law; ~~Strike out~~ indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment.

1           **WHEREAS** gun violence is one of the leading causes of death and injury to young  
2 people in the United State and more than 30,000 people are killed by firearms each year in this  
3 country; and

4           **WHEREAS**, in recent years, there have been a number of tragic incidents including  
5 shootings in public buildings; and

6           **WHEREAS** prohibiting guns in public buildings decreases the opportunity that guns will  
7 be misused and thereby protects the County employees working there and members of the  
8 general public who are doing business there; and

9           **WHEREAS** State law already prohibits guns in schools and the Criminal Law Article,  
10 Section 4-209 (b) specifically allows the County to prohibit possession of guns in other public  
11 buildings; and

12           **WHEREAS** it is prudent to keep guns out of public buildings unless they are carried by  
13 those who are specifically trained in their use for a legitimate public safety purpose.

14  
15 ***Section 1. Be It Enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that the***  
16 ***Howard County Code is amended as follows:***

17           *By amending*

18                   *Title 8. Crimes and misdemeanors.*

19                           *Subtitle 4. Firearms controls.*

20           *By adding*

21                   *Section 8.407. Carrying guns on public property*

22  
23  
24  
25                                   **Title 8. Crimes and misdemeanors.**

26   **Subtitle 4. [[Firearms]] WEAPONS controls.**

27  
28  
29  
30           **8.407. CARRYING WEAPONS ON PUBLIC PROPERTY.**

31           **(A) IN GENERAL.**

1           SUBJECT TO SUBSECTIONS (B) AND (C) OF THIS SECTION, A PERSON MAY NOT CARRY A GUN  
2 AS DEFINED IN § 8.400 OF THIS SUBTITLE OR A DANGEROUS WEAPON PROHIBITED BY § 4-101 OF THE  
3 CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE OF THE MARYLAND CODE WHILE IN A PUBLIC BUILDING THAT IS ON  
4 COUNTY PROPERTY

5 (B) EXCLUDED BUILDINGS.

6           THIS SECTION SHALL NOT APPLY TO THE HOWARD COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT BUILDING.

7 (C) EXEMPT PERSONNEL.

8           THIS SECTION SHALL NOT APPLY TO:

9           (1) A MARSHAL, SHERIFF, CORRECTIONAL OFFICER, OR DEPUTY;

10           (2) A POLICE OFFICER OR OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER EMPLOYED BY A UNIT OF THE  
11 UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, A STATE GOVERNMENT OR A LOCAL SUBDIVISION OF A STATE;

12           (3) A MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES OR OF THE NATIONAL  
13 GUARD OR ORGANIZED RESERVES WHEN ON DUTY;

14           (4) A SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER AS THAT TERM IS USED IN § 3-301 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY  
15 ARTICLE OF THE MARYLAND CODE;

16           (5) A GUARD IN THE EMPLOY OF A BANK, SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION, BUILDING AND  
17 LOAN ASSOCIATION, OR EXPRESS OR ARMORED CAR AGENCY, WHILE PROVIDING A SERVICE TO OR  
18 FOR THE COUNTY;

19           (6) AN EMPLOYEE OF A UNIT OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT WHO IS REQUIRED TO CARRY A GUN  
20 AS A CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT;

21           (7) A QUALIFIED RETIRED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER AS PROVIDED IN THE LAW  
22 ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS SAFETY ACT IF THE RETIRED OFFICER COMPLIES WITH 18 U.S. CODE §  
23 926C; AND

24           (8) A PERSON ACTING IN ACCORDANCE WITH A PERMIT ISSUED UNDER § 19.205 OF THE  
25 COUNTY CODE.

26  
27 ***Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted*** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that  
28 *this Act shall become effective 61 days after its enactment.*  
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