

House Bill 248

By: Representatives Neal of the 2nd and Deffenbaugh of the 1st

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 3 of Article 4 of Chapter 11 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to carrying and possession of firearms, so as to authorize a person with
3 a weapons carry license to possess a weapon on the property of a place of worship under
4 certain circumstances; to provide for related matters; to provide an effective date; to repeal
5 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Part 3 of Article 4 of Chapter 11 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
9 relating to carrying and possession of firearms, is amended by revising subsection (b) of
10 Code Section 16-11-127, relating to carrying weapons in unauthorized locations and
11 penalties, as follows:

12 "(b) A person shall be guilty of carrying a weapon or long gun in an unauthorized location
13 and punished as for a misdemeanor when he or she carries a weapon or long gun while:

14 (1) In a government building;

15 (2) In a courthouse;

16 (3) In a jail or prison;

17 (4) In a place of worship; provided, however, that any person with a weapons carry
18 license shall be authorized to carry a weapon in a place of worship unless such place of
19 worship through its owner or authorized executive leader excludes or prohibits persons
20 in possession of weapons;

21 (5) In a state mental health facility as defined in Code Section 37-1-1 which admits
22 individuals on an involuntary basis for treatment of mental illness, developmental
23 disability, or addictive disease; provided, however, that carrying a weapon or long gun
24 in such location in a manner in compliance with paragraph (3) of subsection (d) of this
25 Code section shall not constitute a violation of this subsection;

- 26 (6) In a bar, unless the owner of the bar permits the carrying of weapons or long guns by
27 license holders;
- 28 (7) On the premises of a nuclear power facility, except as provided in Code Section
29 16-11-127.2, and the punishment provisions of Code Section 16-11-127.2 shall supersede
30 the punishment provisions of this Code section; or
- 31 (8) Within 150 feet of any polling place, except as provided in subsection (i) of Code
32 Section 21-2-413."

33 **SECTION 2.**

34 This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2013.

35 **SECTION 3.**

36 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.