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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

A N A C T

RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS

Introduced By: Senator David E. Bates

Date Introduced: March 23, 2011

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 11-47-9 of the General Laws in Chapter 11-47 entitled "Weapons"
2 is hereby amended to read as follows:
3 **11-47-9. Persons exempt from restrictions.** -- The provisions of section 11-47-8 shall
4 not apply to sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, the superintendent and members of the state police,
5 members of the Rhode Island airport police department, members of the Rhode Island state
6 marshals, Rhode Island state fire marshal, chief deputy state fire marshals, deputy state fire
7 marshals assigned to the bomb squad, and those assigned to the investigation unit, correctional
8 officers, ~~and~~ chief inspectors, inspectors and correctional investigators within the department of
9 corrections, members of the city or town police force, capitol police investigators of the
10 department of attorney general appointed pursuant to section 42-9-8.1, the witness protection
11 coordinator for the witness protection review board as set forth in chapter 30 of title 12 and
12 subject to the minimum qualifications of section 42-9-8.1, the director, assistant director,
13 investigators of the department of public safety Workers' Compensation Investigations unit
14 pursuant to section 42-7.3-3.1 and automobile theft investigators of the Rhode Island state police
15 pursuant to section 31-50-1, railroad police while traveling to and from official assignments or
16 while on assignments, conservation officers, or other duly appointed law enforcement officers,
17 nor to members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps of the United States, the
18 National Guard, or organized reserves, when on duty, nor to members of organizations by law
19 authorized to purchase or receive firearms from the United States or this state, provided these

1 members are at or going to or from their places of assembly or target practice, nor to officers or
2 employees of the United States authorized by law to carry a concealed firearm, nor to any civilian
3 guard or criminal investigator carrying sidearms or a concealed firearm in the performance of his
4 or her official duties under the authority of the commanding officer of the military establishment
5 in the state of Rhode Island where he or she is employed by the United States, nor to any civilian
6 guard carrying sidearms or a concealed firearm in the performance of his or her official duties
7 under the authority of the adjutant general where he or she is employed guarding a national guard
8 facility, provided, that the commanding officer of the military establishment shall have on file
9 with the attorney general of this state a list of the names and addresses of all civilian guards and
10 criminal investigators so authorized, nor to duly authorized military organizations when on duty,
11 nor to members when at or going to or from their customary places of assembly, nor to any
12 individual employed in the capacity of warden, associate warden, major, captain, lieutenant,
13 sergeant, correctional officer or investigator at any project owned or operated by a municipal
14 detention facility corporation, including the Donald W. Wyatt Detention Facility, nor to the
15 regular and/or ordinary transportation of pistols or revolvers as merchandise, nor to any person
16 while transporting a pistol, or revolvers, unloaded from the place of purchase to their residence,
17 or place of business, from their residence to their place of business or from their place of business
18 to their residence, or to a Federal Firearms licensee for the purpose of sale, to or from a bona fide
19 gunsmith, or firearms repair facility, to any police station or other location designated as a site of
20 a bona fide "gun buy-back" program but only if said pistol or revolver is unloaded and any
21 ammunition for said pistol or revolver is not readily or directly accessible from the passenger
22 compartment of such vehicle while transporting same and further provided that in the case of a
23 vehicle without a compartment separate from the passenger compartment the firearm or the
24 ammunition shall be stored in a locked container. Persons exempted by the provisions of this
25 section from the provisions of section 11-47-8 shall have the right to carry concealed firearms
26 everywhere within this state; provided, that this shall not be construed as giving the right to carry
27 concealed firearms to a person transporting firearms as merchandise or as household or business
28 goods.

29 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS

1 This act would give chief inspectors, inspectors and correctional investigators within the
2 department of corrections the right to carry concealed weapons within the state.

3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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