
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1781 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY BOROWICZ, ROAE, CAUSER, SCHMITT, READSHAW,
KAUFFMAN, PYLE, BERNSTINE, JONES, SAYLOR, STRUZZI, METCALFE,
DUSH AND GILLEN, AUGUST 30, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, AUGUST 30, 2019

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 61 (Prisons and Parole) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in miscellaneous provisions, further
3 providing for contraband prohibited.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Section 5902(e.1) of Title 61 of the Pennsylvania
7 Consolidated Statutes, added October 24, 2018 (P.L.749, No.123),
8 is amended to read:

9 § 5902. Contraband prohibited.

10 * * *

11 (e.1) Commonwealth employees and county employees.--

12 (1) The following apply:

13 (i) An employee of the Commonwealth employed at or
14 assigned to a State correctional institution may carry or
15 store one lawfully owned and transported firearm and
16 ammunition in a vehicle located at a specified location
17 outside of the State correctional institution upon
18 providing advance written notice to the chief

1 administrator of the State correctional institution.

2 (i.1) If a governing body of a county adopts an
3 ordinance in accordance with this paragraph, a
4 corrections officer employed by the county at a county
5 correctional institution may carry or store one lawfully
6 owned and transported firearm and ammunition in a vehicle
7 located at a specified location at or outside of the
8 county correctional institution upon providing advance
9 written notice to the chief administrator of the county
10 correctional institution.

11 (ii) If an employee [of the Commonwealth] under
12 subparagraph (i) or (i.1) carries or stores a firearm and
13 ammunition under subparagraph (i) or (i.1), the employee
14 [of the Commonwealth] shall do all of the following:

15 (A) Keep the firearm secured with a trigger lock
16 or a gun safe.

17 (B) Keep the firearm out of plain sight.

18 (C) Comply with all applicable laws governing
19 the use, possession and carrying of firearms and
20 ammunition and all policies of the department or
21 county correctional institution, as appropriate.

22 (iii) A chief administrator who has received written
23 notice under subparagraph (i) [from an employee of the
24 Commonwealth] or (i.1) may deny or revoke the ability of
25 the employee [of the Commonwealth] to carry or store a
26 firearm and ammunition under this paragraph in writing.

27 (iv) An employee [of the Commonwealth] under
28 subparagraph (i) or (i.1) may not carry or store a
29 firearm under subparagraph (i) or (i.1) if the vehicle
30 also contains prohibited ammunition suitable for the

1 firearm.

2 (2) The following words and phrases when used in this
3 subsection shall have the meanings given to them in this
4 paragraph unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

5 "Firearm." A pistol or revolver with a barrel length
6 less than eight inches as determined by measuring from the
7 muzzle of the barrel to the face of the closed action or
8 cylinder, whichever is applicable.

9 "Prohibited ammunition." A bullet or projectile which,
10 if fired from a firearm as defined in 18 Pa.C.S. § 6102
11 (relating to definitions) under the test procedure of the
12 National Institute of Justice for the Ballistic Resistance of
13 Body Armor published July 2008, is determined to be capable
14 of penetrating bullet-resistant apparel or body armor meeting
15 the requirements of Type IIIA of Standard NIJ Standard-
16 0101.06 as formulated by the United States Department of
17 Justice.

18 * * *

19 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.