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H.368

Introduced by Representatives LaLonde of South Burlington, Harrison of
Chittenden, Arsenault of Williston, and Black of Essex

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Firearms; government buildings; possession prohibited

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to prohibit the
possession of firearms in government buildings.

An act relating to prohibiting possession of firearms in government
buildings

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 13 V.S.A. § 4028 is added to read

§ 4028. POSSESSION OF FIREARMS IN GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS

PROHIBITED

(a) A person shall not knowingly possess a firearm in a government
building.

(b) A person who violates this section shall be imprisoned for not more
than one year or fined not more than \$1,000.00, or both.

(c) This section shall not apply to:

1 (1) a firearm carried for legitimate law enforcement purposes by a
2 federal law enforcement officer or a law enforcement officer certified as a law
3 enforcement officer by the Vermont Criminal Justice Council pursuant to 20
4 V.S.A. § 2358; or

5 (2) a firearm carried by a person while performing the person's official
6 duties as an employee of the United States; a department or agency of the
7 United States; a state; or a department, agency, or political subdivision of a
8 state if the person is authorized to carry a firearm as part of the person's
9 official duties.

10 (d) Notice of the provisions of this section shall be posted conspicuously at
11 each public entrance to each government building.

12 (e) As used in this section:

13 (1) "Firearm" has the same meaning as in subsection 4017(d) of this
14 title.

15 (2)(A) "Government building" means a building owned, leased, rented,
16 or operated by the State, a political subdivision of the State, or a municipality.

17 (B) "Government building" does not include a building owned,
18 leased, rented, or operated by a municipality, or a portion of such a building, if
19 the legislative body of the municipality has by resolution or ordinance:

20 (i) designated the building or portion of the building as a location
21 where firearms are permitted; or

1 (ii) opted out of this section and designated that all buildings
2 owned, leased, rented, or operated by the municipality are locations where
3 firearms are permitted.

4 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

5 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.