

Sen. Gannon, Dist 23  
Sen. Lang, Dist 2  
Sen. Abbas, Dist 22  
Sen. Carson, Dist 14  
Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19  
May 8, 2026  
2026-1882s  
05/07

Floor Amendment to HB 1793-FN

1 Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

2

3 AN ACT prohibiting public colleges and universities from regulating the possession or  
4 carrying of certain weapons on campus and establishing a committee to study the  
5 feasibility of allowing guns on campuses of public institutions of higher education.  
6

7 Amend the bill by replacing all after the enacting clause with the following:

8

9 1 Short Title. This act may be known and cited as the "Protecting College Students Act".

10 2 Statement of Findings. The general court hereby finds that:

11 I. The constitution of New Hampshire, part I, article 2-a, guarantees the natural and  
12 essential right of the people to keep and bear arms in defense of themselves, their families, their  
13 property, and the state.

14 II. New Hampshire law provides for constitutional carry, recognizing that law-abiding  
15 citizens have the right to carry firearms without unnecessary government restriction.

16 3 New Subdivision; Prohibition on Restrictions of Weapons on College Campuses. Amend RSA  
17 159 by inserting after section 27 the following new subdivision:

18 Prohibition on Restrictions of Weapons on College Campuses

19 159:28 Definitions. In this subdivision:

20 I. "Non-lethal weapons" means pepper spray, mace, stun guns, Tasers, and other similar  
21 devices designed to incapacitate without causing fatal injury.

22 II. "Campus" refers to all land, buildings, facilities, and vehicles owned, leased, or controlled  
23 by a public institution of higher education in this state.

24 III. "Public institution of higher education" means any public technical institute, public  
25 junior college, public senior college or university, law school, medical or dental school, or any  
26 institution of higher education in this state supported by public funds.

27 159:29 Prohibition on Restrictions of Weapons on College Campuses.

28 I. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, no public institution of higher  
29 education shall enact rules, policies, or similar prohibitions restricting the possession, carry, storage,  
30 or lawful use of non-lethal weapons on campus.

**Floor Amendment to HB 1793-FN**

**- Page 2 -**

1           II. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, no public institution of higher  
2 education shall enact rules, policies, or similar prohibitions restricting the possession, carry, or  
3 lawful use of firearms on campus by any faculty.

4           III. Public institutions of higher education shall develop and enact rules, policies, and  
5 procedures to implement this section.

6           159:30 Severability. If any provision of this subdivision or the application thereof to any person  
7 or circumstances is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of  
8 the subdivision which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end  
9 the provisions of this subdivision are declared to be severable.

10          4 Committee Established. There is established a committee to study the feasibility of allowing  
11 guns on campuses of public institutions of higher education.

12          5 Membership and Compensation.

13           I. The members of the committee shall be as follows:

14           (a) Three members of the house of representatives, with one member being from the  
15 minority party, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

16           (b) Two members of the senate, with one member being from the minority party,  
17 appointed by the president of the senate.

18          II. Members of the committee shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when attending to  
19 the duties of the committee.

20          6 Duties. The committee shall:

21           I. Investigate the cost to public institutions of higher education, as defined in RSA 159:28,  
22 III, if campus carry were to pass.

23           II. Study the feasibility of allowing full-time employees of public institutions of higher  
24 education, as defined in RSA 159:28, III, to carry weapons, and any potential costs or safety concerns  
25 related to allowing employees of public institutions of higher education, as defined in RSA 159:28,  
26 III, to carry weapons.

27           III. Study existing policies on different types of weapons at all public institutions of higher  
28 education, as defined in RSA 159:28, III, in New Hampshire.

29           IV. Study policies in other states regarding weapons on campuses of public institutions of  
30 higher education, as defined in RSA 159:28, III.

31           V. Study policies in other states and solicit, or attempt to solicit, testimony from  
32 representatives of public institutions of higher education, as defined in RSA 159:28, III, in those  
33 states for feedback as to whether their policies have had any impact on campus safety and costs to  
34 their public institutions of higher education, as defined in RSA 159:28, III.

35           VI. Study the safety concerns of allowing guns on campuses of public institutions of higher  
36 education, as defined in RSA 159:28, III, including safety assessments of campuses of public

**Floor Amendment to HB 1793-FN**  
**- Page 3 -**

1 institutions of higher education, as defined in RSA 159:28, III, and potential changes to such  
2 assessments, should campus carry be implemented in future years.

3 VII. Determine what reasonable restrictions public institutions of higher education, as  
4 defined in RSA 159:28, III, would require should such a policy be implemented.

5 VIII. Solicit input from the university system of New Hampshire on current policies  
6 regarding firearms and other weapons on campuses of public institutions of higher education, as  
7 defined in RSA 159:28, III, and the potential impacts of changing such policies.

8 7 Chairperson; Quorum. The members of the study committee shall elect a chairperson from  
9 among the members. The first meeting of the committee shall be called by the first-named senate  
10 member. The first meeting of the committee shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this  
11 section. Three members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

12 8 Report. The committee shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed  
13 legislation to the speaker of the house of representatives, the president of the senate, the house  
14 clerk, the senate clerk, the governor, and the state library on or before November 1, 2026.

15 9 Effective Date.

16 I. RSA 159:29, II as inserted by section 2 of the bill, shall take effect July 1, 2027.

17 II. The remainder of this act shall take effect upon its passage.

**Floor Amendment to HB 1793-FN**  
**- Page 4 -**

2026-1882s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Prohibits public colleges and universities from regulating the possession or carrying of non-lethal weapons on campus or firearms on campus by faculty and requires such institutions to enact rules, policies, and procedures regarding the prohibition.

II. Establishes a committee to study campus carry and the possession, carrying, and storage of firearms on college campuses.