

HB0326



95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2007 and 2008

HB0326

Introduced 1/22/2007, by Rep. Chapin Rose

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

720 ILCS 5/24-2

from Ch. 38, par. 24-2

Amends the Criminal Code of 1961. Provides that the unlawful use of weapons statute does not apply to the purchase, possession, or carrying of a switchblade knife by a peace officer.

LRB095 04627 RLC 24685 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning criminal law.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Criminal Code of 1961 is amended by changing
5 Section 24-2 as follows:

6 (720 ILCS 5/24-2) (from Ch. 38, par. 24-2)

7 Sec. 24-2. Exemptions.

8 (a) Subsections 24-1(a) (3), 24-1(a) (4) and 24-1(a) (10) and
9 Section 24-1.6 do not apply to or affect any of the following:

10 (1) Peace officers, and any person summoned by a peace
11 officer to assist in making arrests or preserving the
12 peace, while actually engaged in assisting such officer.

13 (2) Wardens, superintendents and keepers of prisons,
14 penitentiaries, jails and other institutions for the
15 detention of persons accused or convicted of an offense,
16 while in the performance of their official duty, or while
17 commuting between their homes and places of employment.

18 (3) Members of the Armed Services or Reserve Forces of
19 the United States or the Illinois National Guard or the
20 Reserve Officers Training Corps, while in the performance
21 of their official duty.

22 (4) Special agents employed by a railroad or a public
23 utility to perform police functions, and guards of armored

1 car companies, while actually engaged in the performance of
2 the duties of their employment or commuting between their
3 homes and places of employment; and watchmen while actually
4 engaged in the performance of the duties of their
5 employment.

6 (5) Persons licensed as private security contractors,
7 private detectives, or private alarm contractors, or
8 employed by an agency certified by the Department of
9 Professional Regulation, if their duties include the
10 carrying of a weapon under the provisions of the Private
11 Detective, Private Alarm, Private Security, and Locksmith
12 Act of 2004, while actually engaged in the performance of
13 the duties of their employment or commuting between their
14 homes and places of employment, provided that such
15 commuting is accomplished within one hour from departure
16 from home or place of employment, as the case may be.
17 Persons exempted under this subdivision (a)(5) shall be
18 required to have completed a course of study in firearms
19 handling and training approved and supervised by the
20 Department of Professional Regulation as prescribed by
21 Section 28 of the Private Detective, Private Alarm, Private
22 Security, and Locksmith Act of 2004, prior to becoming
23 eligible for this exemption. The Department of
24 Professional Regulation shall provide suitable
25 documentation demonstrating the successful completion of
26 the prescribed firearms training. Such documentation shall

1 be carried at all times when such persons are in possession
2 of a concealable weapon.

3 (6) Any person regularly employed in a commercial or
4 industrial operation as a security guard for the protection
5 of persons employed and private property related to such
6 commercial or industrial operation, while actually engaged
7 in the performance of his or her duty or traveling between
8 sites or properties belonging to the employer, and who, as
9 a security guard, is a member of a security force of at
10 least 5 persons registered with the Department of
11 Professional Regulation; provided that such security guard
12 has successfully completed a course of study, approved by
13 and supervised by the Department of Professional
14 Regulation, consisting of not less than 40 hours of
15 training that includes the theory of law enforcement,
16 liability for acts, and the handling of weapons. A person
17 shall be considered eligible for this exemption if he or
18 she has completed the required 20 hours of training for a
19 security officer and 20 hours of required firearm training,
20 and has been issued a firearm authorization card by the
21 Department of Professional Regulation. Conditions for the
22 renewal of firearm authorization cards issued under the
23 provisions of this Section shall be the same as for those
24 cards issued under the provisions of the Private Detective,
25 Private Alarm, Private Security, and Locksmith Act of 2004.
26 Such firearm authorization card shall be carried by the

1 security guard at all times when he or she is in possession
2 of a concealable weapon.

3 (7) Agents and investigators of the Illinois
4 Legislative Investigating Commission authorized by the
5 Commission to carry the weapons specified in subsections
6 24-1(a)(3) and 24-1(a)(4), while on duty in the course of
7 any investigation for the Commission.

8 (8) Persons employed by a financial institution for the
9 protection of other employees and property related to such
10 financial institution, while actually engaged in the
11 performance of their duties, commuting between their homes
12 and places of employment, or traveling between sites or
13 properties owned or operated by such financial
14 institution, provided that any person so employed has
15 successfully completed a course of study, approved by and
16 supervised by the Department of Professional Regulation,
17 consisting of not less than 40 hours of training which
18 includes theory of law enforcement, liability for acts, and
19 the handling of weapons. A person shall be considered to be
20 eligible for this exemption if he or she has completed the
21 required 20 hours of training for a security officer and 20
22 hours of required firearm training, and has been issued a
23 firearm authorization card by the Department of
24 Professional Regulation. Conditions for renewal of firearm
25 authorization cards issued under the provisions of this
26 Section shall be the same as for those issued under the

1 provisions of the Private Detective, Private Alarm,
2 Private Security, and Locksmith Act of 2004. Such firearm
3 authorization card shall be carried by the person so
4 trained at all times when such person is in possession of a
5 concealable weapon. For purposes of this subsection,
6 "financial institution" means a bank, savings and loan
7 association, credit union or company providing armored car
8 services.

9 (9) Any person employed by an armored car company to
10 drive an armored car, while actually engaged in the
11 performance of his duties.

12 (10) Persons who have been classified as peace officers
13 pursuant to the Peace Officer Fire Investigation Act.

14 (11) Investigators of the Office of the State's
15 Attorneys Appellate Prosecutor authorized by the board of
16 governors of the Office of the State's Attorneys Appellate
17 Prosecutor to carry weapons pursuant to Section 7.06 of the
18 State's Attorneys Appellate Prosecutor's Act.

19 (12) Special investigators appointed by a State's
20 Attorney under Section 3-9005 of the Counties Code.

21 (12.5) Probation officers while in the performance of
22 their duties, or while commuting between their homes,
23 places of employment or specific locations that are part of
24 their assigned duties, with the consent of the chief judge
25 of the circuit for which they are employed.

26 (13) Court Security Officers while in the performance

1 of their official duties, or while commuting between their
2 homes and places of employment, with the consent of the
3 Sheriff.

4 (13.5) A person employed as an armed security guard at
5 a nuclear energy, storage, weapons or development site or
6 facility regulated by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission
7 who has completed the background screening and training
8 mandated by the rules and regulations of the Nuclear
9 Regulatory Commission.

10 (14) Manufacture, transportation, or sale of weapons
11 to persons authorized under subdivisions (1) through
12 (13.5) of this subsection to possess those weapons.

13 (b) Subsections 24-1(a)(4) and 24-1(a)(10) and Section
14 24-1.6 do not apply to or affect any of the following:

15 (1) Members of any club or organization organized for
16 the purpose of practicing shooting at targets upon
17 established target ranges, whether public or private, and
18 patrons of such ranges, while such members or patrons are
19 using their firearms on those target ranges.

20 (2) Duly authorized military or civil organizations
21 while parading, with the special permission of the
22 Governor.

23 (3) Hunters, trappers or fishermen with a license or
24 permit while engaged in hunting, trapping or fishing.

25 (4) Transportation of weapons that are broken down in a
26 non-functioning state or are not immediately accessible.

1 (c) Subsection 24-1(a)(7) does not apply to or affect any
2 of the following:

3 (1) Peace officers while in performance of their
4 official duties.

5 (2) Wardens, superintendents and keepers of prisons,
6 penitentiaries, jails and other institutions for the
7 detention of persons accused or convicted of an offense.

8 (3) Members of the Armed Services or Reserve Forces of
9 the United States or the Illinois National Guard, while in
10 the performance of their official duty.

11 (4) Manufacture, transportation, or sale of machine
12 guns to persons authorized under subdivisions (1) through
13 (3) of this subsection to possess machine guns, if the
14 machine guns are broken down in a non-functioning state or
15 are not immediately accessible.

16 (5) Persons licensed under federal law to manufacture
17 any weapon from which 8 or more shots or bullets can be
18 discharged by a single function of the firing device, or
19 ammunition for such weapons, and actually engaged in the
20 business of manufacturing such weapons or ammunition, but
21 only with respect to activities which are within the lawful
22 scope of such business, such as the manufacture,
23 transportation, or testing of such weapons or ammunition.
24 This exemption does not authorize the general private
25 possession of any weapon from which 8 or more shots or
26 bullets can be discharged by a single function of the

1 firing device, but only such possession and activities as
2 are within the lawful scope of a licensed manufacturing
3 business described in this paragraph.

4 During transportation, such weapons shall be broken
5 down in a non-functioning state or not immediately
6 accessible.

7 (6) The manufacture, transport, testing, delivery,
8 transfer or sale, and all lawful commercial or experimental
9 activities necessary thereto, of rifles, shotguns, and
10 weapons made from rifles or shotguns, or ammunition for
11 such rifles, shotguns or weapons, where engaged in by a
12 person operating as a contractor or subcontractor pursuant
13 to a contract or subcontract for the development and supply
14 of such rifles, shotguns, weapons or ammunition to the
15 United States government or any branch of the Armed Forces
16 of the United States, when such activities are necessary
17 and incident to fulfilling the terms of such contract.

18 The exemption granted under this subdivision (c)(6)
19 shall also apply to any authorized agent of any such
20 contractor or subcontractor who is operating within the
21 scope of his employment, where such activities involving
22 such weapon, weapons or ammunition are necessary and
23 incident to fulfilling the terms of such contract.

24 During transportation, any such weapon shall be broken
25 down in a non-functioning state, or not immediately
26 accessible.

1 (d) Subsection 24-1(a)(1) does not apply to the purchase,
2 possession or carrying of a black-jack or slung-shot by a peace
3 officer.

4 (d-5) Subsection 24-1(a)(1) does not apply to the purchase,
5 possession, or carrying of a switchblade knife, as described in
6 subsection 24-1(a)(1), by a peace officer.

7 (e) Subsection 24-1(a)(8) does not apply to any owner,
8 manager or authorized employee of any place specified in that
9 subsection nor to any law enforcement officer.

10 (f) Subsection 24-1(a)(4) and subsection 24-1(a)(10) and
11 Section 24-1.6 do not apply to members of any club or
12 organization organized for the purpose of practicing shooting
13 at targets upon established target ranges, whether public or
14 private, while using their firearms on those target ranges.

15 (g) Subsections 24-1(a)(11) and 24-3.1(a)(6) do not apply
16 to:

17 (1) Members of the Armed Services or Reserve Forces of
18 the United States or the Illinois National Guard, while in
19 the performance of their official duty.

20 (2) Bonafide collectors of antique or surplus military
21 ordinance.

22 (3) Laboratories having a department of forensic
23 ballistics, or specializing in the development of
24 ammunition or explosive ordinance.

25 (4) Commerce, preparation, assembly or possession of
26 explosive bullets by manufacturers of ammunition licensed

1 by the federal government, in connection with the supply of
2 those organizations and persons exempted by subdivision
3 (g)(1) of this Section, or like organizations and persons
4 outside this State, or the transportation of explosive
5 bullets to any organization or person exempted in this
6 Section by a common carrier or by a vehicle owned or leased
7 by an exempted manufacturer.

8 (g-5) Subsection 24-1(a)(6) does not apply to or affect
9 persons licensed under federal law to manufacture any device or
10 attachment of any kind designed, used, or intended for use in
11 silencing the report of any firearm, firearms, or ammunition
12 for those firearms equipped with those devices, and actually
13 engaged in the business of manufacturing those devices,
14 firearms, or ammunition, but only with respect to activities
15 that are within the lawful scope of that business, such as the
16 manufacture, transportation, or testing of those devices,
17 firearms, or ammunition. This exemption does not authorize the
18 general private possession of any device or attachment of any
19 kind designed, used, or intended for use in silencing the
20 report of any firearm, but only such possession and activities
21 as are within the lawful scope of a licensed manufacturing
22 business described in this subsection (g-5). During
23 transportation, those devices shall be detached from any weapon
24 or not immediately accessible.

25 (h) An information or indictment based upon a violation of
26 any subsection of this Article need not negative any exemptions

1 contained in this Article. The defendant shall have the burden
2 of proving such an exemption.

3 (i) Nothing in this Article shall prohibit, apply to, or
4 affect the transportation, carrying, or possession, of any
5 pistol or revolver, stun gun, taser, or other firearm consigned
6 to a common carrier operating under license of the State of
7 Illinois or the federal government, where such transportation,
8 carrying, or possession is incident to the lawful
9 transportation in which such common carrier is engaged; and
10 nothing in this Article shall prohibit, apply to, or affect the
11 transportation, carrying, or possession of any pistol,
12 revolver, stun gun, taser, or other firearm, not the subject of
13 and regulated by subsection 24-1(a)(7) or subsection 24-2(c) of
14 this Article, which is unloaded and enclosed in a case, firearm
15 carrying box, shipping box, or other container, by the
16 possessor of a valid Firearm Owners Identification Card.

17 (Source: P.A. 92-325, eff. 8-9-01; 93-438, eff. 8-5-03; 93-439,
18 eff. 8-5-03; 93-576, eff. 1-1-04; revised 9-15-03.)