

Sixty-fifth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1273

Introduced by

Representatives B. Koppelman, Rick C. Becker, Karls, K. Koppelman, D. Ruby

Senator O. Larsen

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 62.1-02-05 of the North Dakota Century Code,  
2 relating to possession of a firearm or dangerous weapon at a public gathering.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 62.1-02-05 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **62.1-02-05. Possession of a firearm or dangerous weapon at a public gathering -**  
7 **Penalty - Application.**

- 8 1. An individual who knowingly possesses a firearm or dangerous weapon at a public  
9 gathering is guilty of a class B misdemeanor. For the purpose of this section, "public  
10 gathering" means an athletic or sporting event, a school, a church, and a publicly  
11 owned or operated building.
- 12 2. This section does not apply to:
- 13 a. A law enforcement officer;
  - 14 b. A member of the armed forces of the United States or national guard, organized  
15 reserves, state defense forces, or state guard organizations, when on duty;
  - 16 c. A competitor participating in an organized sport shooting event;
  - 17 d. A gun or antique show;
  - 18 e. A participant using a blank cartridge firearm at a sporting or theatrical event;
  - 19 f. A firearm or dangerous weapon carried in a temporary residence or motor  
20 vehicle;
  - 21 g. A student and an instructor at a hunter safety class;
  - 22 h. Private security personnel while on duty;
  - 23 i. A state or federal park;

- 1           j. An instructor, a test administrator, an official, or a participant in educational,  
2           training, cultural, or competitive events involving the authorized use of a  
3           dangerous weapon if the event occurs with permission of the person or entity  
4           with authority over the function or premises in question;
- 5           k. An individual in a publicly owned or operated rest area or restroom;
- 6           l. An individual possessing a valid concealed weapons license from this state or  
7           who has reciprocity under section 62.1-04-03.1 authorizing the individual to carry  
8           a dangerous weapon concealed if the individual is in a church building or other  
9           place of worship and has the approval to carry in the church building or other  
10          place of worship by a primary religious leader of the church or other place of  
11          worship or the governing body of the church or other place of worship. ~~If a church-~~  
12          ~~or other place of worship authorizes an individual to carry a concealed weapon,~~  
13          ~~local law enforcement must be informed of the name of the authorized individual;~~  
14          and
- 15          m. A municipal court judge, a district court judge, a staff member of the office of  
16          attorney general, and a retired North Dakota law enforcement officer, if the  
17          individual maintains the same level of firearms proficiency as is required by the  
18          peace officer standards and training board for law enforcement officers. A local  
19          law enforcement agency shall issue a certificate of compliance under this section  
20          to an individual who is proficient.
- 21          3. This section does not prevent any political subdivision from enacting an ordinance that  
22          is less restrictive than this section relating to the possession of firearms or dangerous  
23          weapons at a public gathering. An enacted ordinance supersedes this section within  
24          the jurisdiction of the political subdivision.
- 25          4. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a church or place of worship may not be  
26          held liable for any injury or death or damage to property caused by an individual  
27          permitted to carry a dangerous weapon concealed under this section.