

REFERENCE TITLE: failure to secure weapon; minor

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Fifty-seventh Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2026

## **HB 2578**

Introduced by

Representatives Gutierrez: Abeytia, Austin, Blattman, Cavero, Connolly,  
Contreras P, Crews, De Los Santos, Garcia, Hernandez A, Liguori, Mathis,  
Simacek, Stahl Hamilton, Travers, Villegas

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 13-3102, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO WEAPONS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:  
2 Section 1. Section 13-3102, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
3 read:  
4 13-3102. Misconduct involving weapons; defenses;  
5 classification; definitions  
6 A. A person commits misconduct involving weapons by knowingly:  
7 1. Carrying a deadly weapon except a pocket knife concealed on his  
8 person or within his immediate control in or on a means of transportation:  
9 (a) In the furtherance of a serious offense as defined in section  
10 13-706, a violent crime as defined in section 13-901.03 or any other  
11 felony offense; or  
12 (b) When contacted by a law enforcement officer and failing to  
13 accurately answer the officer if the officer asks whether the person is  
14 carrying a concealed deadly weapon; or  
15 2. Carrying a deadly weapon except a pocket knife concealed on his  
16 person or concealed within his immediate control in or on a means of  
17 transportation if the person is under twenty-one years of age; or  
18 3. Manufacturing, possessing, transporting, selling or transferring  
19 a prohibited weapon, except that if the violation involves dry ice, a  
20 person commits misconduct involving weapons by knowingly possessing the  
21 dry ice with the intent to cause injury to or death of another person or  
22 to cause damage to the property of another person; or  
23 4. Possessing a deadly weapon or prohibited weapon if such person  
24 is a prohibited possessor; or  
25 5. Selling or transferring a deadly weapon to a prohibited  
26 possessor; or  
27 6. Defacing a deadly weapon; or  
28 7. Possessing a defaced deadly weapon knowing the deadly weapon was  
29 defaced; or  
30 8. Using or possessing a deadly weapon during the commission of any  
31 felony offense included in chapter 34 of this title; or  
32 9. Discharging a firearm at an occupied structure in order to  
33 assist, promote or further the interests of a criminal street gang, a  
34 criminal syndicate or a racketeering enterprise; or  
35 10. Unless specifically authorized by law, entering any public  
36 establishment or attending any public event and carrying a deadly weapon  
37 on his person after a reasonable request by the operator of the  
38 establishment or the sponsor of the event or the sponsor's agent to remove  
39 his weapon and place it in the custody of the operator of the  
40 establishment or the sponsor of the event for temporary and secure storage  
41 of the weapon pursuant to section 13-3102.01; or  
42 11. Unless specifically authorized by law, entering an election  
43 polling place on the day of any election carrying a deadly weapon; or  
44 12. Possessing a deadly weapon on school grounds; or

1           13. Unless specifically authorized by law, entering a nuclear or  
2 hydroelectric generating station carrying a deadly weapon on his person or  
3 within the immediate control of any person; or

4           14. Supplying, selling or giving possession or control of a firearm  
5 to another person if the person knows or has reason to know that the other  
6 person would use the firearm in the commission of any felony; or

7           15. Using, possessing or exercising control over a deadly weapon in  
8 furtherance of any act of terrorism as defined in section 13-2301 or  
9 possessing or exercising control over a deadly weapon knowing or having  
10 reason to know that it will be used to facilitate any act of terrorism as  
11 defined in section 13-2301; or

12           16. Trafficking in weapons or explosives for financial gain in  
13 order to assist, promote or further the interests of a criminal street  
14 gang, a criminal syndicate or a racketeering enterprise.

15           17. FAILING TO SECURE A FIREARM FROM A MINOR BY NOT TAKING  
16 REASONABLE MEASURES TO PREVENT THE MINOR FROM ACCESSING THE FIREARM.

17           B. Subsection A, paragraph 2 of this section shall not apply to:

18           1. A person in his dwelling, on his business premises or on real  
19 property owned or leased by that person or that person's parent,  
20 grandparent or legal guardian.

21           2. A member of the sheriff's volunteer posse or reserve  
22 organization who has received and passed firearms training that is  
23 approved by the Arizona peace officer standards and training board and who  
24 is authorized by the sheriff to carry a concealed weapon pursuant to  
25 section 11-441.

26           3. A firearm that is carried in:

27           (a) A manner where any portion of the firearm or holster in which  
28 the firearm is carried is visible.

29           (b) A holster that is wholly or partially visible.

30           (c) A scabbard or case designed for carrying weapons that is wholly  
31 or partially visible.

32           (d) Luggage.

33           (e) A case, holster, scabbard, pack or luggage that is carried  
34 within a means of transportation or within a storage compartment, map  
35 pocket, trunk or glove compartment of a means of transportation.

36           C. Subsection A, paragraphs 2, 3, 7, 10, 11, 12 and 13 of this  
37 section shall not apply to:

38           1. A peace officer or any person summoned by any peace officer to  
39 assist and while actually assisting in the performance of official duties;  
40 or

41           2. A member of the military forces of the United States or of any  
42 state of the United States in the performance of official duties; or

43           3. A warden, deputy warden, community correctional officer,  
44 detention officer, special investigator or correctional officer of the

1 state department of corrections or the department of juvenile corrections;  
2 or

3 4. A person specifically licensed, authorized or permitted pursuant  
4 to a statute of this state or of the United States.

5 D. Subsection A, paragraph 10 of this section does not apply to an  
6 elected or appointed judicial officer in the court facility where the  
7 judicial officer works if the judicial officer has demonstrated competence  
8 with a firearm as prescribed in section 13-3112, subsection N, except that  
9 the judicial officer shall comply with any rule or policy adopted by the  
10 presiding judge of the superior court while in the court facility. For  
11 the purposes of this subsection, appointed judicial officer does not  
12 include a hearing officer or a judicial officer pro tempore who is not a  
13 full-time officer.

14 E. Subsection A, paragraphs 3 and 7 of this section shall not apply  
15 to:

16 1. The possessing, transporting, selling or transferring of weapons  
17 by a museum as a part of its collection or an educational institution for  
18 educational purposes or by an authorized employee of such museum or  
19 institution, if:

20 (a) Such museum or institution is operated by the United States or  
21 this state or a political subdivision of this state, or by an organization  
22 described in 26 United States Code section 170(c) as a recipient of a  
23 charitable contribution; and

24 (b) Reasonable precautions are taken with respect to theft or  
25 misuse of such material.

26 2. The regular and lawful transporting as merchandise; or

27 3. Acquisition by a person by operation of law such as by gift,  
28 devise or descent or in a fiduciary capacity as a recipient of the  
29 property or former property of an insolvent, incapacitated or deceased  
30 person.

31 F. Subsection A, paragraph 3 of this section shall not apply to the  
32 merchandise of an authorized manufacturer of or dealer in prohibited  
33 weapons, when such material is intended to be manufactured, possessed,  
34 transported, sold or transferred solely for or to a dealer, a regularly  
35 constituted or appointed state, county or municipal police department or  
36 police officer, a detention facility, the military service of this or  
37 another state or the United States, a museum or educational institution or  
38 a person specifically licensed or permitted pursuant to federal or state  
39 law.

40 G. Subsection A, paragraph 10 of this section shall not apply to  
41 shooting ranges or shooting events, hunting areas or similar locations or  
42 activities.

43 H. Subsection A, paragraph 12 of this section shall not apply to a  
44 weapon if ~~such~~ THE weapon is possessed for the purposes of preparing for,  
45 conducting or participating in hunter or firearm safety courses.

1 I. Subsection A, paragraph 12 of this section shall not apply to  
2 the possession of a:

3 1. Firearm that is not loaded and that is carried within a means of  
4 transportation under the control of an adult provided that if the adult  
5 leaves the means of transportation the firearm shall not be visible from  
6 the outside of the means of transportation and the means of transportation  
7 shall be locked.

8 2. Firearm for use on the school grounds in a program approved by a  
9 school.

10 3. Firearm by a person who possesses a certificate of firearms  
11 proficiency pursuant to section 13-3112, subsection T and who is  
12 authorized to carry a concealed firearm pursuant to the law enforcement  
13 officers safety act of 2004 (P.L. 108-277; 118 Stat. 865; 18 United States  
14 Code sections 926B and 926C).

15 J. Subsection A, paragraphs 2, 3, 7 and 13 of this section shall  
16 not apply to commercial nuclear generating station armed nuclear security  
17 guards during the performance of official duties or during any security  
18 training exercises sponsored by the commercial nuclear generating station  
19 or local, state or federal authorities.

20 K. SUBSECTION A, PARAGRAPH 17 OF THIS SECTION SHALL NOT APPLY IF A  
21 MINOR HAS LAWFUL POSSESSION OF A FIREARM PURSUANT TO SECTION 13-3111.

22 ~~K.~~ L. The operator of the establishment or the sponsor of the  
23 event or the employee of the operator or sponsor or the agent of the  
24 sponsor, including a public entity or public employee, is not liable for  
25 acts or omissions pursuant to subsection A, paragraph 10 of this section  
26 unless the operator, sponsor, employee or agent intended to cause injury  
27 or was grossly negligent.

28 ~~L.~~ M. If a law enforcement officer contacts a person who is in  
29 possession of a firearm, the law enforcement officer may take temporary  
30 custody of the firearm for the duration of that contact.

31 ~~M.~~ N. Misconduct involving weapons under subsection A, paragraph  
32 15 of this section is a class 2 felony. Misconduct involving weapons  
33 under subsection A, paragraph 9, 14 or 16 of this section is a class 3  
34 felony. Misconduct involving weapons under subsection A, paragraph 3, 4,  
35 8 or 13 of this section is a class 4 felony. Misconduct involving weapons  
36 under subsection A, paragraph 12 of this section is a class 1 misdemeanor  
37 unless the violation occurs in connection with conduct that violates  
38 section 13-2308, subsection A, paragraph 5, section 13-2312, subsection C,  
39 section 13-3409 or section 13-3411, in which case the offense is a class 6  
40 felony. Misconduct involving weapons under subsection A, paragraph 1,  
41 subdivision (a) of this section or subsection A, paragraph 5, 6 or 7 of  
42 this section is a class 6 felony. MISCONDUCT INVOLVING WEAPONS UNDER  
43 SUBSECTION A, PARAGRAPH 17 OF THIS SECTION IS A CLASS 6 FELONY IF THE  
44 MINOR ACCESSES THE FIREARM AND A CLASS 4 FELONY IF THE MINOR DISCHARGES  
45 THE FIREARM AND CAUSES DEATH OR SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURY TO THE MINOR OR

1 ANOTHER PERSON. Misconduct involving weapons under subsection A,  
2 paragraph 1, subdivision (b) of this section or subsection A, paragraph 10  
3 or 11 of this section is a class 1 misdemeanor. Misconduct involving  
4 weapons under subsection A, paragraph 2 of this section is a class 3  
5 misdemeanor.

6 ~~N.~~ 0. For the purposes of this section:

7 1. "Contacted by a law enforcement officer" means a lawful traffic  
8 or criminal investigation, arrest or detention or an investigatory stop by  
9 a law enforcement officer that is based on reasonable suspicion that an  
10 offense has been or is about to be committed.

11 2. "Public establishment" means a structure, vehicle or craft that  
12 is owned, leased or operated by this state or a political subdivision of  
13 this state.

14 3. "Public event" means a specifically named or sponsored event of  
15 limited duration that is either conducted by a public entity or conducted  
16 by a private entity with a permit or license granted by a public entity.  
17 Public event does not include an unsponsored gathering of people in a  
18 public place.

19 4. "School" means a public or nonpublic kindergarten program,  
20 common school or high school.

21 5. "School grounds" means in, or on the grounds of, a school.

22 Sec. 2. Short title

23 This act may be cited as "Christian's Law".