

SJUD CS FOR SENATE BILL 176

SJUD CS for SB 176 makes the following changes:

- Eliminated the findings and intent language

The section is no longer applicable, given the subsequent changes

- Eliminates the ability to open carry firearms

After hearing public testimony and the concerns about open carry of firearms, we removed the language that prohibited the Board of Regents from regulating open carry.

- Policies adopted and enforced by the Board of Regents may not restrict the possession of concealed handguns by a person with a concealed handgun permit, except that policies adopted and enforced may be the same as AS 11.61.190-11.61.220.

- The possession of firearms on campus shall be limited to concealed handguns possessed by law-abiding adults, 21 years of age or older, who possess a concealed handgun permit approved by the Department of Public Safety in accordance with AS 18.65.700-18.65.790

Though Alaska law does not require a law-abiding adult (21 years of age and older) to have a concealed handgun permit to carry a concealed handgun, we think, that given the uniqueness of the UA system, the requirement to obtain a concealed handgun permit is the least restrictive alternative that allows for the lawful exercise of two fundamental rights.

- In order for students to possess a handgun in student housing on university property they must meet three criteria. The criteria are: be a concealed handgun permit holder, provide proof of the permit to a designated university employee, and store the handgun in a lock box when the handgun is not concealed and directly controlled by the owner.

