

103^D CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 4237

To prohibit the possession in a public housing zone of a firearm the possession of which is otherwise unlawful, and to prohibit the discharge of a firearm in a public housing zone.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 18, 1994

Mr. DURBIN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To prohibit the possession in a public housing zone of a
firearm the possession of which is otherwise unlawful,
and to prohibit the discharge of a firearm in a public
housing zone.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Gun-Free Public Hous-
5 ing Zones Act of 1994”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION AGAINST ILLEGAL POSSESSION OR**
2 **DISCHARGE OF A FIREARM IN A PUBLIC**
3 **HOUSING ZONE.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 922 of title 18, United
5 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the follow-
6 ing:

7 “(v)(1) It shall be unlawful for any person to possess
8 a firearm, in violation of any other Federal law or of any
9 State or local law, at a place that the person knows, or
10 has reasonable cause to believe, is in a public housing
11 zone.

12 “(2)(A) It shall be unlawful for any person, know-
13 ingly or with reckless disregard for the safety of another,
14 to discharge or attempt to discharge a firearm at a place
15 that the person knows is in a public housing zone.

16 “(B) Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to the dis-
17 charge of a firearm—

18 “(i) by a person employed by a public housing
19 agency to provide security for a public housing
20 project in the public housing zone, acting within the
21 scope of such employment; or

22 “(ii) by a law enforcement officer acting in his
23 or her official capacity.”.

24 (b) DEFINITIONS.—Section 921(a) of such title is
25 amended by adding at the end the following:

1 “(30)(A) The term ‘public housing zone’ means in or
2 upon—

3 “(i) the real property comprising the public
4 housing projects of any public housing agency; or

5 “(ii) any public property which is at a distance
6 of not more than 1,000 feet from property referred
7 to in clause (i).

8 “(B) The terms ‘project’, ‘public housing’, and ‘public
9 housing agency’ shall have the meanings given such terms
10 in section 3(b) of the Housing Act of 1937.”.

11 (c) PENALTIES.—Section 924(a)(4) of such title is
12 amended by striking “922(q)” each place such term ap-
13 pears and inserting “subsection (q) or (v) of section 922”.

14 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
15 this section shall apply to conduct engaged in after the
16 end of the 60-day period that begins with the date of the
17 enactment of this Act.

18 (e) GUN-FREE ZONE SIGNS.—Federal, State, and
19 local authorities are encouraged to cause signs to be post-
20 ed around public housing zones (within the meaning of
21 section 921(a)(30) of title 18, United States Code) giving
22 warning of prohibition against the illegal possession of a
23 firearm in such zones.

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