

As Introduced

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H. B. No. 949

Representative Dean

**Cosponsors: Representatives Pizzulli, Ferguson, Hall, T., Gross, Thomas, D.,
Mullins**

To enact section 3345.211 of the Revised Code to 1
enact the Campus Self-Defense Act to allow 2
adults to carry nonlethal self-defense weapons 3
on state institution of higher education 4
campuses. 5

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 3345.211 of the Revised Code be 6
enacted to read as follows: 7

Sec. 3345.211. (A) As used in this section: 8

(1) "Campus area" means any building, bus, grounds, 9
recreation area, athletic field, or any other property owned, 10
operated, or in use by the board of trustees of a state 11
institution of higher education. 12

(2) "Nonlethal self-defense weapon" means pepper spray, a 13
pepper spray gun, pepper gel, mace, a taser, an electric control 14
device, a stun gun, or other conducted energy device. 15

(3) "Organization" has the same meaning as in section 16
2901.23 of the Revised Code except that it includes a state 17
institution of higher education. 18

(4) "State institution of higher education" has the same 19
meaning as in section 3345.011 of the Revised Code. 20

(B) No state institution of higher education shall 21
knowingly do any of the following: 22

(1) Prohibit a person eighteen years of age or older from 23
possessing a nonlethal self-defense weapon or using a nonlethal 24
self-defense weapon in self-defense while the person is lawfully 25
present in the campus area of a state institution of higher 26
education; 27

(2) Impose disciplinary action on a person eighteen years 28
of age or older for possessing a nonlethal self-defense weapon 29
or using a nonlethal self-defense weapon in self-defense while 30
the person is lawfully present in the campus area of a state 31
institution of higher education; 32

(3) Require a person eighteen years of age or older to 33
register a nonlethal self-defense weapon; 34

(4) Require a person eighteen years of age or older to 35
obtain approval from a state institution of higher education 36
before possessing a nonlethal self-defense weapon or using a 37
nonlethal self-defense weapon in self-defense. 38

(C) A state institution of higher education shall permit 39
students who are eighteen years of age or older to store 40
nonlethal self-defense weapons in campus housing facilities and 41
shall not impose storage restrictions that render the nonlethal 42
self-defense weapons inaccessible during emergencies. 43

(D) A state institution of higher education that violates 44
this section is guilty of improper interference with nonlethal 45
self-defense weapons on campus, a misdemeanor of the first 46
degree. Notwithstanding section 2929.31 of the Revised Code, the 47

<u>court shall impose on the organization a fine in the amount of</u>	48
<u>fifty thousand dollars.</u>	49
Section 2. This act shall be known as the Campus Self-	50
Defense Act.	51