

HB 252 -- BUSINESS PREMISES SAFETY ACT (Cox)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Committee on General Laws

This bill establishes the Business Premises Safety Act which prohibits a business owner or operator from restricting any person from lawfully possessing a firearm in a motor vehicle except in a vehicle owned or leased by the business. Business owners, operators, merchants, and shopkeepers do not have a duty to guard against the criminal act of a third party unless they know or have reason to know that the acts are occurring or are about to occur on the premises that pose imminent probability of injury to a person or that the same criminal acts have occurred on the premises within the prior 24 months and is likely to occur again. In either case, it will be their duty to use reasonable care to protect against the acts. An owner or operator of a business will not be liable for any injury or damage resulting from compliance with these provisions. The term "business" will not include commercial residential operations such as, but not limited to, hotels, motels, and apartment complexes.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2012, FY 2013, and FY 2014.