



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 139

January Session, 2009

Substitute Senate Bill No. 825

Senate, March 23, 2009

The Committee on Public Safety and Security reported through SEN. STILLMAN of the 20th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING PAINTBALL SAFETY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) No paintball facility shall
2 allow any person under eighteen years of age to use a paintball gun at
3 such facility without (1) instruction in procedures for the safe use of
4 paintball equipment, or (2) presentation of a certificate attesting to
5 such person's completion of such instruction. Such instruction may
6 include, but need not be limited to: (A) A short video presentation of
7 proper safety equipment and procedures, (B) verbal instruction by the
8 staff of the paintball facility, or (C) a short written or oral examination
9 concerning safety measures for the participant followed by an
10 explanation of any incorrect responses. After successful completion of
11 such instruction, the paintball facility shall issue a certificate attesting
12 to such completion to the participant.

13 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) (a) No person under
14 eighteen years of age shall use a paintball gun on any public or private

15 property unless such person is wearing an eye protective device which
 16 meets the American Society of Testing and Materials specification
 17 F1776-01. Failure to comply with this section shall not be a violation or
 18 an offense. Failure to wear an eye protective device required by this
 19 subsection shall not be considered to be contributory negligence on the
 20 part of the parent or such person nor shall such failure be admissible in
 21 any civil action.

22 (b) A law enforcement officer may issue a verbal warning to the
 23 parent or guardian of a person who has failed to comply with the
 24 provisions of subsection (a) of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2009	New section
Sec. 2	October 1, 2009	New section

PS *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB 825*****AN ACT CONCERNING PAINTBALL SAFETY.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill prohibits paintball facilities from allowing minors (anyone under age 18) to use paintball guns at the facilities unless the user has been instructed or certified in procedures for safely using paintball equipment.

The bill requires minors using paintball guns on public or private property to wear eye protection that meets the American Society of Testing and Materials specification F1776-01. It allows law enforcement officials to issue verbal warnings to parents or guardians of minors who do not wear such eye protection. A minor's failure to wear approved eye protection is (1) not a violation or offense and (2) not admissible in civil actions and does not constitute contributory negligence on the part of the minor or his or her parent.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2009

INSTRUCTION ON PAINTBALL GUN USE

The instructions on safe use of paintball guns may include:

1. a short video presentation on proper safety equipment and procedures;
2. verbal instruction by the facility's staff; or
3. a short written or oral examination on safety measures, which involves explaining any incorrect responses to the participant.

After completing the instruction, the facility must issue a certificate of completion to the participant.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 17 Nay 4 (03/10/2009)