

HOUSE BILL 228

57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2026

INTRODUCED BY

Randall T. Pettigrew and John Block

AN ACT

RELATING TO CRIMINAL LAW; CREATING THE CRIME OF UNLAWFUL CARRYING OF A FIREARM WHILE TRAFFICKING A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE; PROVIDING PENALTIES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. A new section of Chapter 30, Article 7 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:

" [NEW MATERIAL] UNLAWFUL CARRYING OF A FIREARM WHILE TRAFFICKING A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE. --

A. Unlawful carrying of a firearm while trafficking a controlled substance consists of carrying a firearm while trafficking a controlled substance in violation of the provisions of Section 30-31-20 NMSA 1978. Whoever commits unlawful carrying of a firearm while trafficking a controlled substance is guilty of a third degree felony and shall be

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sentenced pursuant to the provisions of Section 31-18-15 NMSA 1978.

B. As used in this section, "firearm" means any weapon that will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosion or the frame or receiver of any such weapon."

SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the provisions of this act is July 1, 2026.

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