

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 882

Session of
1983

INTRODUCED BY CORMAN, KUSSE, SHAFFER, O'CONNELL AND STAPLETON,
JUNE 27, 1983

REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, JUNE 27, 1983

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, further providing for prohibited
3 offensive weapons.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Section 908 of Title 18 of the Pennsylvania
7 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

8 § 908. Prohibited offensive weapons.

9 (a) Offense defined.--A person commits a misdemeanor of the
10 first degree if, except as authorized by law, he makes repairs,
11 sells, or otherwise deals in, uses, or possesses any offensive
12 weapon.

13 (b) Exception.--It is a defense under this section for the
14 defendant to prove by a preponderance of evidence that he
15 possessed or dealt with the weapon solely as a curio or in a
16 dramatic performance, or that he complied with the National
17 Firearms Act (26 U.S.C. § 5801 et seq.), or that he possessed it
18 briefly in consequence of having found it or taken it from an

1 aggressor, or under circumstances similarly negating any
2 intent or likelihood that the weapon would be used unlawfully.

3 (c) Definition.--As used in this section "offensive weapon"
4 means any bomb, grenade, machine gun, sawed-off shotgun, firearm
5 specially made or specially adapted for concealment or silent
6 discharge, any blackjack, sandbag, metal knuckles, dagger,
7 knife, razor or cutting instrument, the blade of which is
8 exposed in an automatic way by switch, push-button, spring
9 mechanism, or otherwise, or other implement for the infliction
10 of serious bodily injury which serves no common lawful purpose.

11 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.