

XV. Capitol Security

PURPOSE: It is the intent of this policy to ensure the safety of the public, employees, tenants, and legislators in the Capitol by establishing security checkpoints and defining prohibited items.

GUIDELINES: Firearms and other weapons as defined below are generally prohibited in the Capitol. Security checkpoints will be established in or around the Capitol to ensure no prohibited items are brought into the building. All members of the public, employees, tenants, and legislators will be required to pass through a security checkpoint to enter the building. Oregon State Police and other on duty law enforcement, fire fighters, paramedics or personnel operating under an emergency are exempt from the security checkpoint requirement.

Legislators, tenants, and staff

1. Legislators/Staff/Tenants must enter the Oregon State Capitol through any available security checkpoint entrance. Hand-carried items will be screened via physical inspection or x-ray machine.
2. All Legislators/Staff/Tenants must pass through security screening. Refusal will result in denial of entrance into the Capitol.
3. Any Legislator/Staff/Tenant who does not clear the screening process will be denied access to the building.
4. Occasionally, Legislators/Staff/Tenants may be delayed in entering the Capitol. Security personnel will do what they can to expedite the screening process.
5. It is unlawful to enter the Oregon State Capitol building with a firearm of any kind unless a valid exception described in ORS 166.370 (3) applies. *[Note: a concealed handgun license is not a valid exception, per ORS 166.370 (1)(b).]*
6. Weapons, including electronic defense weapons, facsimile weapons, knives (see below), tasers, pepper spray (see below), caustic chemicals, fireworks, firecrackers, and sparklers are not allowed into the State Capitol. At the discretion of security personnel in accordance with ORS 173.720, any items deemed to be a possible weapon, a security risk or disruptive to governmental activities, or items that pose a risk to public safety, are not allowed into the State Capitol.
7. Knives- Folding knives and multi-tools (i.e. Leatherman tools) with a blade no longer than 3.5 inches will be permitted as long as the knife is a folding style and does not have a blade that projects or swings into position by force of a spring or by centrifugal force. Personal pepper spray, 2 oz or less, is also permitted.

8. Persons found in possession of weapons or other prohibited items may be required to surrender the item to security personnel or to immediately remove the item from the Capitol.

Public (including lobby & press)

1. Visitors must enter the Oregon State Capitol through a metal detector. Hand-carried items will be screened through an x-ray machine.
2. All visitors must pass through security screening. Refusal will result in denial of entrance into the Capitol.
3. Any visitor who does not clear the screening process will be denied access to the building.
4. Occasionally, visitors may be delayed in entering the Capitol. Security personnel will do what they can to expedite the screening process.
5. It is unlawful to enter the Oregon State Capitol building with a firearm of any kind unless a valid exception described in ORS 166.370 (3) applies. *[Note: a concealed handgun license is not a valid exception, per ORS 166.370 (1)(b).]*
6. Weapons of any kind, including electronic defense weapons, facsimile weapons, knives (including tactical knives, folding knives, hunting knives, key chain knives, pen knives, pocket knives and credit card knives), tasers, pepper spray, caustic chemicals, fireworks, firecrackers and sparklers are not allowed into the State Capitol. At the discretion of security personnel, any items deemed to be a possible weapon, a security risk or disruptive to governmental activities, or items that pose a risk to public safety, are not allowed into the State Capitol.
7. Persons found in possession of weapons or other prohibited items may be required to surrender the item to security personnel or to immediately remove the item from the Capitol.