
SENATE BILL 6033

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2024 Regular Session

By Senators Braun, Dozier, Gildon, Holy, Kuderer, Schoesler, Wagoner, Warnick, and J. Wilson

Prefiled 01/05/24. Read first time 01/08/24. Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

1 AN ACT Relating to ceremonial open carry on the Washington state
2 capitol campus; and amending RCW 9.41.305.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 9.41.305 and 2023 c 470 s 3006 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) Unless exempt under subsection (3) of this section, it is
7 unlawful for any person to knowingly open carry a firearm or other
8 weapon, as defined in RCW 9.41.300(1)(b), while knowingly being in
9 the following locations:

10 (a) The west state capitol campus grounds; any buildings on the
11 state capitol grounds; any state legislative office; or any location
12 of a public state legislative hearing or meeting during the hearing
13 or meeting; or

14 (b) City, town, county, or other municipality buildings used in
15 connection with meetings of the governing body of the city, town,
16 county, or other municipality, or any location of a public meeting or
17 hearing of the governing body of a city, town, county, or other
18 municipality during the hearing or meeting.

19 (2) For the purposes of this section:

20 (a) "Buildings on the state capitol grounds" means the following
21 buildings located on the state capitol grounds, commonly known as

1 Legislative, Temple of Justice, John L. O'Brien, John A. Cherberg,
2 Irving R. Newhouse, Joel M. Pritchard, Helen Sommers, Insurance,
3 Governor's Mansion, Visitor Information Center, Carlyon House, Ayer
4 House, General Administration, 1500 Jefferson, James M. Dolliver, Old
5 Capitol, Capitol Court, State Archives, Natural Resources, Office
6 Building #2, Highway-License, Transportation, Employment Security,
7 Child Care Center, Union Avenue, Washington Street, Professional
8 Arts, State Farm, and Powerhouse Buildings.

9 (b) "Governing body" has the same meaning as in RCW 42.30.020.

10 (c) "West state capitol campus grounds" means areas of the campus
11 south of Powerhouse Rd. SW, south of Union Avenue SW as extended
12 westward to Powerhouse Rd. SW, west of Capitol Way, north of 15th
13 Avenue SW between Capitol Way S. and Water Street SW, west of Water
14 Street between 15th Avenue SW and 16th Avenue SW, north of 16th
15 Avenue SW between Water Street SW and the east banks of Capitol Lake,
16 and east of the banks of Capitol Lake.

17 (3) Duly authorized federal, state, or local law enforcement
18 officers or personnel are exempt from this section when carrying a
19 firearm or other weapon in conformance with their employing agency's
20 policy. Members of the armed forces of the United States or the state
21 of Washington are exempt from this section when carrying a firearm or
22 other weapon in the discharge of official duty or traveling to or
23 from official duty. Fully uniformed color guard and honor guard
24 affiliated with a veterans' service organization recognized by the
25 Washington department of veterans affairs, or affiliated with the
26 national sons of the American revolution or sons of union veterans of
27 the civil war, are exempt from this section when carrying a firearm
28 or other weapon while actively participating in, walking to,
29 operating a vehicle during, and when leaving permitted events. The
30 department of enterprise services may make such reasonable rules,
31 regulations, and orders as may be necessary for the proper
32 administration and enforcement of this subsection.

33 (4) (a) A person violating this section is guilty of a
34 misdemeanor.

35 (b) Second and subsequent violations of this section are a gross
36 misdemeanor.

37 (5) Nothing in this section applies to the lawful concealed carry
38 of a firearm by a person who has a valid concealed pistol license.

39 (6) A city, town, county, or other municipality must post signs
40 providing notice of the restrictions on possession of firearms and

1 other weapons under this section at any locations specified in
2 subsection (1)(b) of this section.

--- **END** ---