
SENATE BILL 6686

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2020 Regular Session

By Senators Das, Wellman, Kuderer, Carlyle, Hunt, Cleveland, Frockt, Lovelett, Wilson, C., and Saldaña

1 AN ACT Relating to prohibiting the possession of weapons on state
2 capitol grounds; and reenacting and amending RCW 9.41.300.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 9.41.300 and 2018 c 201 s 9003 and 2018 c 201 s 6007
5 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

6 (1) It is unlawful for any person to enter the following places
7 when he or she knowingly possesses or knowingly has under his or her
8 control a weapon:

9 (a) The restricted access areas of a jail, or of a law
10 enforcement facility, or any place used for the confinement of a
11 person (i) arrested for, charged with, or convicted of an offense,
12 (ii) held for extradition or as a material witness, or (iii)
13 otherwise confined pursuant to an order of a court, except an order
14 under chapter 13.32A or 13.34 RCW. Restricted access areas do not
15 include common areas of egress or ingress open to the general public;

16 (b) Those areas in any building which are used in connection with
17 court proceedings, including courtrooms, jury rooms, judge's
18 chambers, offices and areas used to conduct court business, waiting
19 areas, and corridors adjacent to areas used in connection with court
20 proceedings. The restricted areas do not include common areas of
21 ingress and egress to the building that is used in connection with

1 court proceedings, when it is possible to protect court areas without
2 restricting ingress and egress to the building. The restricted areas
3 shall be the minimum necessary to fulfill the objective of this
4 subsection (1)(b).

5 For purposes of this subsection (1)(b), "weapon" means any
6 firearm, explosive as defined in RCW 70.74.010, or any weapon of the
7 kind usually known as slungshot, sand club, or metal knuckles, or any
8 knife, dagger, dirk, or other similar weapon that is capable of
9 causing death or bodily injury and is commonly used with the intent
10 to cause death or bodily injury.

11 In addition, the local legislative authority shall provide either
12 a stationary locked box sufficient in size for pistols and key to a
13 weapon owner for weapon storage, or shall designate an official to
14 receive weapons for safekeeping, during the owner's visit to
15 restricted areas of the building. The locked box or designated
16 official shall be located within the same building used in connection
17 with court proceedings. The local legislative authority shall be
18 liable for any negligence causing damage to or loss of a weapon
19 either placed in a locked box or left with an official during the
20 owner's visit to restricted areas of the building.

21 The local judicial authority shall designate and clearly mark
22 those areas where weapons are prohibited, and shall post notices at
23 each entrance to the building of the prohibition against weapons in
24 the restricted areas;

25 (c) The restricted access areas of a public mental health
26 facility licensed or certified by the department of health for
27 inpatient hospital care and state institutions for the care of the
28 mentally ill, excluding those facilities solely for evaluation and
29 treatment. Restricted access areas do not include common areas of
30 egress and ingress open to the general public;

31 (d) That portion of an establishment classified by the state
32 liquor and cannabis board as off-limits to persons under twenty-one
33 years of age; ((~~or~~))

34 (e) The restricted access areas of a commercial service airport
35 designated in the airport security plan approved by the federal
36 transportation security administration, including passenger screening
37 checkpoints at or beyond the point at which a passenger initiates the
38 screening process. These areas do not include airport drives, general
39 parking areas and walkways, and shops and areas of the terminal that
40 are outside the screening checkpoints and that are normally open to

1 unscreened passengers or visitors to the airport. Any restricted
2 access area shall be clearly indicated by prominent signs indicating
3 that firearms and other weapons are prohibited in the area; or

4 (f) State capitol grounds or any building located on state
5 capitol grounds.

6 (2) Cities, towns, counties, and other municipalities may enact
7 laws and ordinances:

8 (a) Restricting the discharge of firearms in any portion of their
9 respective jurisdictions where there is a reasonable likelihood that
10 humans, domestic animals, or property will be jeopardized. Such laws
11 and ordinances shall not abridge the right of the individual
12 guaranteed by Article I, section 24 of the state Constitution to bear
13 arms in defense of self or others; and

14 (b) Restricting the possession of firearms in any stadium or
15 convention center, operated by a city, town, county, or other
16 municipality, except that such restrictions shall not apply to:

17 (i) Any pistol in the possession of a person licensed under RCW
18 9.41.070 or exempt from the licensing requirement by RCW 9.41.060; or

19 (ii) Any showing, demonstration, or lecture involving the
20 exhibition of firearms.

21 (3)(a) Cities, towns, and counties may enact ordinances
22 restricting the areas in their respective jurisdictions in which
23 firearms may be sold, but, except as provided in (b) of this
24 subsection, a business selling firearms may not be treated more
25 restrictively than other businesses located within the same zone. An
26 ordinance requiring the cessation of business within a zone shall not
27 have a shorter grandfather period for businesses selling firearms
28 than for any other businesses within the zone.

29 (b) Cities, towns, and counties may restrict the location of a
30 business selling firearms to not less than five hundred feet from
31 primary or secondary school grounds, if the business has a
32 storefront, has hours during which it is open for business, and posts
33 advertisements or signs observable to passersby that firearms are
34 available for sale. A business selling firearms that exists as of the
35 date a restriction is enacted under this subsection (3)(b) shall be
36 grandfathered according to existing law.

37 (4) Violations of local ordinances adopted under subsection (2)
38 of this section must have the same penalty as provided for by state
39 law.

1 (5) The perimeter of the premises of any specific location
2 covered by subsection (1) of this section shall be posted at
3 reasonable intervals to alert the public as to the existence of any
4 law restricting the possession of firearms on the premises.

5 (6) Subsection (1) of this section does not apply to:

6 (a) A person engaged in military activities sponsored by the
7 federal or state governments, while engaged in official duties;

8 (b) Law enforcement personnel, except that subsection (1)(b) of
9 this section does apply to a law enforcement officer who is present
10 at a courthouse building as a party to an action under chapter 10.14,
11 10.99, or 26.50 RCW, or an action under Title 26 RCW where any party
12 has alleged the existence of domestic violence as defined in RCW
13 26.50.010; or

14 (c) Security personnel while engaged in official duties.

15 (7) Subsection (1)(a), (b), (c), ~~((and))~~ (e), and (f) of this
16 section does not apply to correctional personnel or community
17 corrections officers, as long as they are employed as such, who have
18 completed government-sponsored law enforcement firearms training,
19 except that subsection (1)(b) of this section does apply to a
20 correctional employee or community corrections officer who is present
21 at a courthouse building as a party to an action under chapter 10.14,
22 10.99, or 26.50 RCW, or an action under Title 26 RCW where any party
23 has alleged the existence of domestic violence as defined in RCW
24 26.50.010.

25 (8) Subsection (1)(a) of this section does not apply to a person
26 licensed pursuant to RCW 9.41.070 who, upon entering the place or
27 facility, directly and promptly proceeds to the administrator of the
28 facility or the administrator's designee and obtains written
29 permission to possess the firearm while on the premises or checks his
30 or her firearm. The person may reclaim the firearms upon leaving but
31 must immediately and directly depart from the place or facility.

32 (9) Subsection (1)(c) of this section does not apply to any
33 administrator or employee of the facility or to any person who, upon
34 entering the place or facility, directly and promptly proceeds to the
35 administrator of the facility or the administrator's designee and
36 obtains written permission to possess the firearm while on the
37 premises.

38 (10) Subsection (1)(d) of this section does not apply to the
39 proprietor of the premises or his or her employees while engaged in
40 their employment.

1 (11) Government-sponsored law enforcement firearms training must
2 be training that correctional personnel and community corrections
3 officers receive as part of their job requirement and reference to
4 such training does not constitute a mandate that it be provided by
5 the correctional facility.

6 (12) Any person violating subsection (1) of this section is
7 guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

8 (13) For purposes of this section:

9 (a) "State capitol grounds" means buildings and land owned by the
10 state and otherwise designated as state capitol grounds, including
11 the west capitol campus, the east capitol campus, the north capitol
12 campus, the Tumwater campus, the Lacey campus, Sylvester Park,
13 Centennial Park, the Old Capitol Building, and Capitol Lake.

14 (b) "Weapon" as used in this section means any firearm,
15 explosive as defined in RCW 70.74.010, or instrument or weapon listed
16 in RCW 9.41.250.

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