



UTAH STATE LEGISLATURE

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January 16, 2023

Commissioner Jess Anderson
Utah Department of Public Safety
Salt Lake City, UT 84129

Commissioner Anderson,

Thank you for your efforts to ensure that the Utah State Capitol is a safe place for the Legislature to conduct the work of the people and for the public to visit and participate in the policymaking process. We want to inform you that, effective immediately, we are issuing the following policies and guidelines to provide clarity regarding allowable activities during legislative meetings.

- A member of the public attending a meeting of a legislative committee may not:
 - bring any of the following items into the meeting room:
 - a sign that is likely to obstruct a walkway or the view of a meeting attendee;
 - paint or any similar item;
 - glitter, confetti, or any similar item;
 - a flashlight, a laser pointer, or any similar item;
 - an open flame;
 - an incendiary device;
 - a noise maker;
 - flammable liquid; or
 - any harmful or hazardous substance;
 - throw an item; or
 - adhere a sticker, sign, or other items to a furnishing, wall, or other state property.
- The chair may allow an individual to bring an item described above during the individual's presentation to the legislative committee, provided that the item's use does not affect the chair's ability to preserve order and decorum.

- The chair shall preserve order and decorum during a meeting of the legislative committee by:
 - ensuring nothing obstructs a walkway or the view of a meeting attendee;
 - ensuring the meeting is free from any audible or visual disturbance;
 - protecting state property from damage or disarray;
 - prohibiting speech likely to incite or produce imminent lawless action, fighting words, or obscenity; and
 - prohibiting any activity or item that poses a danger to the safety of a meeting attendee.
- To preserve order and decorum, the chair may:
 - prohibit the following:
 - standing, waving, yelling, or clapping;
 - loud noises;
 - food or drink, other than water in a closed container;
 - instruments;
 - any item that may require excessive cleanup; or
 - to the extent necessary to preserve order and decorum, any other item or activity the chair determines necessary;
 - clear the committee room of one or more individuals;
 - recess the meeting; or
 - request assistance from:
 - the sergeant-at-arms; or
 - the Utah Highway Patrol.

We anticipate these policies will remain in place until the Legislature enacts and/or updates them through legislative action.

Thank you again for the hard work of your office and the Utah Highway Patrol troopers in safeguarding the people's house.

Respectfully,



President J. Stuart Adams
Utah Senate



Speaker Brad Wilson
Utah House of Representatives

cc: Darrell Griggs, Sergeant at Arms, Utah Senate
Mike Mitchell, Sergeant at Arms, Utah House of Representatives