



## ***Public Safety & Health Committee - Board of Representatives***

Jeffrey Stella, Chair

Eric Morson, Vice Chair

# **Committee Report**

**Date:** Wednesday, November 29, 2023

**Time:** 6:30 p.m.

**Place:** This meeting was held remotely

The Public Safety & Health Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Stella, Vice Chair Morson, and Committee Member Reps. Berns, Campbell, Garst, Graham, and Pollock. Also in attendance was Rep. Summerville; Director Lou DeRubeis, Public Safety, Health & Welfare and Dana Lee, Attorney.

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee Action</b>
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***Possibly in Executive Session:***

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|-----------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| 1. <a href="#">PS31.047</a> | ORDINANCE for final adoption; Amending <a href="#">Chapter 242 of the Code of Ordinances</a> Adding § 242-5 Prohibiting the Possession of Firearms and Explosives in Government Buildings and Polling Places.<br>09/05/23 – Submitted by Lou DeRubeis<br>09/21/23 – Approved by Committee, as Amended, 5-0- 1<br>10/26/23- Public Hearing Held and Approved by Committee, as Amended, 4-0-1<br><b>11/08/23 – Recommitted to Steering by Full Board</b> | <b>Approved<br/>6-0-1</b> |
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Both Director DeRubeis and Attorney Lee stated that they were happy to answer any questions. Chair Stella reiterated that any additional information that the public may need can be found by reviewing the two previous meetings regarding public safety.

Chair Stella confirmed Rep. Burns' question that the current version of this ordinance does include an exception for people who qualify having the HR 218 credentials to be able to carry arms in municipal buildings. Rep. Burns motioned to replace the above exception with "on duty police officers and law enforcement in the course of their business." No one seconded the motion.

Attorney Lee explained that the ordinance does allow an exception for law enforcement officers, federal law enforcement officers, and military engaged in the course of their official duties such as ceremonial or recruitment duties. Rep. Burns voiced his concern of having such broad exceptions for any ex law enforcement with HR 218 credentials which may lead to

having more guns in municipal buildings and City property which he feels will not make them safer.

Director DeRubeis explained the purpose of establishing the ordinance is to allow security and/or law enforcement the right to request that anyone who does not qualify as an exception leave any City publicly owned property. Furthermore, any kind of restrictions in regards to firearms in the chambers or any specific Board of Representative rooms should be a rule that is put forth by the Board itself.

Rep. Pollack proposed taking the discussion into executive session. Vice Chair Morson moved the committee go into executive session to discuss items pertaining to safety. It was seconded and approved by a unanimous vote. (Chair Stella, Vice Chair Morson, Reps. Berns, Campbell, Garst, Graham, and Pollack in favor). Chair Stella, Vice Chair Morson, Reps. Berns, Campbell, Garst, Graham, Pollock, Summerville, Director DeRubeis, and Attorney Lee were invited in.

The executive session began at 6:52 pm and ended at 7:35 pm. Chair Stella noted that a discussion was had, and no votes were taken. Attorney Lee left the meeting.

Rep. Burns made a motion to approve Item No. 1, seconded and approved by a vote of 6-0-1. (Chair Stella, Vice Chair Morson, Reps. Berns, Garst, Graham, and Pollack in favor. Rep. Campbell abstained).

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| 2. PS31.034 | REVIEW; Difficulties of Enforcement of City Ordinances under Civil Citation process and possible solutions, including Cross-Training of Civil Citation Officers.<br>12/06/22 – Submitted by Reps. Stella, de la Cruz, and Berns<br>02/13/23 – Moved to Pending  | <b>Held</b> |
| 3. PS31.020 | REVIEW; Of a "duty to report law" Requiring Property Managers, Building Superintendents, Security Personnel, Doormen, Etc. to Notify 911 of any Emergencies.<br>04/06/22 – Submitted by Reps. Curtis, Stella, Pavia, and Berns<br>04/20/22 – Report Made & Held by Committee 6-0-0<br>05/18/22 – No Action Taken<br>06/22/22 – Report Made & Held in Committee 7-0-0<br>07/11/22 – Moved to Pending<br>03/01/23 – Held by Committee 6-0-1<br>03/13/23 – Moved to Pending<br>07/10/23 – Moved to Pending | <b>Held</b> |

4. PS31.029      REVIEW; Legal Role and Authority of City Constables.      **Held**  
09/07/22 – Submitted by Rep. Stella and Berns  
09/12/22 – Moved to Pending  
01/09/23 – Moved to Pending  
08/14/23 – Moved to Pending

Chair Stella adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeffrey Stella, Chair

This meeting is on video ([Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#))