### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 5457**

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A POLICY PROVIDING THAT THE AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE DESCRIBED IN ORS 166.370(3)(g) DOES NOT APPLY TO THE POSSESSION OF FIREARMS IN CITY BUILDINGS WHERE OFFICIAL CITY MEETINGS ARE HELD.

PASSED: 6:1

**REJECTED:** 

**OPPOSED:** Clark

**ABSENT: Evans** 

CONSIDERED: September 22, 2025



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### The City Council of the City of Eugene finds that:

**A.** The 2025 Eugene-State Legislative Priorities, approved by the Eugene City Council on January 22, 2025, included the following priority:

# 5. Secure authority for local governments to prohibit firearms in public buildings.

HB 2007 from the 2023 session is the basis for a 2025 bill being led by Metro. Specifically, the bill would:

'Authorize[] governing bodies of certain public entities that own or control public building[s] to adopt policy, ordinance or regulation or precluding affirmative defense for possession of firearms in public building and adjacent grounds by concealed handgun licensees. Provides that in prosecution for possession of firearm in building or on grounds subject to such policy, ordinance or regulation, concealed handgun licensee affirmative defense in not complete defense, but results in Class A misdemeanor conviction punishable by 364 days' imprisonment, \$6,250 fine, or both.'

**B.** During the 2025 legislative session, the Oregon Legislature adopted Senate Bill (SB) 243, with an effective date of September 25, 2025. Among other things, SB 243 amends ORS 166.377 to add a new subsection (3), that new subsection authorizes the governing body of a city, a county, or a district to:

adopt a policy, ordinance or regulation providing that the affirmative defense described in ORS 166.370(3)(g), concerning persons licensed to carry a concealed handgun under ORS 166.291 and 166.292, does not apply to the possession of firearms within a building owned or controlled by the governing body that is used by the governing body for official meetings.

- C. SB 243 requires any governing body that adopts a policy allowed under ORS 166.377's new subsection (3) to: (1) post a clearly visible sign, at all normal points of entry to the buildings subject to the policy, indicating that the affirmative defense described in ORS 166.370 (3)(g) does not apply; and, (2) post a notice on the governing body's website identifying all buildings subject to the policy.
- **D.** The City of Eugene owns or controls a number of buildings in which official meetings (meetings subject to Oregon Public Meetings law) are held. In furtherance of the legislative priority set forth in finding A, the City Council desires to adopt a policy providing that the affirmative defense described in ORS 166.370(3)(g), concerning persons licensed to carry a

concealed handgun under ORS 166.291 and 166.292, does not apply to the possession of firearms within any building owned or controlled by the City in which official meetings of the City are held.

### NOW, THEREFORE,

## BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EUGENE, a Municipal Corporation of the State of Oregon, as follows:

<u>Section 1</u>. The City Council of the City of Eugene adopts the following policy in accordance with ORS 166.377(3):

The affirmative defense described in ORS 166.370(3)(g), concerning persons licensed to carry a concealed handgun under ORS 166.291 and 166.292, does not apply to the possession of firearms within any building owned or controlled by the City of Eugene that is used by the City of Eugene for official meetings.

<u>Section 2</u>. Followings its passage by the City Council, this Resolution shall become effective on September 26, 2025.

The foregoing Resolution adopted the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September, 2025.

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