
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE STATE CAPITOL.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that in our post-
2 September 11th world, terrorism, violence, and threats of
3 violence in public forums have become increasingly common and
4 our state government must do more to ensure that citizen
5 engagement does not come at the expense of public safety. At
6 the federal level, the United States Department of Homeland
7 Security's Interagency Security Committee, whose mission is to
8 develop security standards and best practices for nonmilitary
9 federal facilities, has issued guidance detailing "best
10 practices" and recommendations for the protection of federal
11 facilities, employees, contractors, and visitors, and these
12 recommendations include using security countermeasures such as
13 metal detectors and x-ray machines at pedestrian and public
14 entrances of federal buildings. According to the National
15 Conference of State Legislatures, twenty-eight states currently
16 utilize walk-through metal detectors at the public entrances of
17 their capitol buildings. In Hawaii, the judiciary, co-equal to
18 the legislative and executive branches of government, welcomes



1 members of the public to come to court and observe firsthand the
2 administration of justice - but also requires all visitors to
3 first pass through metal detectors and have their personal
4 belongings undergo x-ray baggage screening. In contrast, the
5 Hawaii state capitol building is known as one of the most
6 publicly accessible capitol buildings in the nation, but is also
7 one of the most vulnerable - precisely because there are no
8 provisions for mandatory security screening of visitors.

9 The legislature also finds that the value of open access to
10 "the people's house" must be balanced with the need to ensure
11 the physical safety and well-being of the visiting public,
12 capitol staff, legislators, and other building occupants. The
13 legislature further finds that it is within the purview of the
14 state capitol management committee, established pursuant to Act
15 97 of the regular session of 2014 and now codified in section
16 6E-34.5, to develop and implement a master security plan that
17 will increase safety and security in the Hawaii state capitol
18 building through the mandatory use of metal detectors, x-ray
19 scans of baggage, and other prudent measures. The development
20 and implementation of such a security plan is consistent with
21 the committee's authority to oversee and manage the state



1 capitol and approve all policies and procedures relating to the
2 state capitol's general operation and management and its grounds
3 and facilities, including general security policies.

4 The purpose of this Act is to:

- 5 (1) Require the state capitol management committee to
6 develop and implement a master security plan that will
7 increase safety and security in the Hawaii state
8 capitol building through the mandatory use of metal
9 detectors, x-ray scans of baggage, and other prudent
10 measures; and
- 11 (2) Specify that development and implementation of the
12 plan is to occur in four phases and be completed by
13 December 31, 2020.

14 SECTION 2. The state capitol management committee shall
15 develop and implement a master security plan that will increase
16 safety and security in the state capitol building through the
17 mandatory use of metal detectors, x-ray scans of baggage, and
18 other prudent measures.

19 The development and implementation of the master security
20 plan shall be divided into phases and shall include, but not be
21 limited to, the following:



- 1 (1) Phase I - Discussion of ideas proposed by members of
2 the state capitol management committee as well as
3 input solicited from members of the public, capitol
4 staff, legislators, and other building occupants;
- 5 (2) Phase II - Development of a master security plan,
6 including prioritization and decision-making as to
7 what security measures the plan should include besides
8 mandatory use of metal detectors and x-ray scans of
9 baggage, securing of necessary cooperation from other
10 government agencies and departments, research into
11 what fiscal resources are needed, and passage of any
12 legislation necessary for implementation of the master
13 security plan;
- 14 (3) Phase III - Securing of funding for, and
15 implementation of, security measures deemed by the
16 state capitol management committee to be a short-term
17 priority; and
- 18 (4) Phase IV - Securing of funding for, and implementation
19 of, security measures deemed by the state capitol
20 management committee to be a longer term priority.
- 21 The timeline for completion of the various phases of the



1 master security plan shall be as follows:

- 2 (1) July 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016 for completion
- 3 of Phase I;
- 4 (2) January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017 for
- 5 completion of Phase II;
- 6 (3) January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018 for
- 7 completion of Phase III; and
- 8 (4) January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2020 for
- 9 completion of Phase IV.

10 SECTION 3. The state capitol management committee shall
 11 submit to the legislature a written report of its progress on
 12 the master security plan no later than twenty days prior to the
 13 convening of the 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021 legislative
 14 sessions.

15 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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H.B. NO. 2685

Report Title:

State Capitol Building; Master Security Plan.

Description:

Requires the State Capitol Management Committee to develop and implement in phases a master security plan to increase safety and security in the Hawaii state capitol building through the mandatory use of metal detectors, x-ray scans of baggage, and other prudent measures.

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