

Senate Judiciary Committee

Declan Donahue 271-3324

HB 1000, extending the indemnification of legislative security staff members to legislative sergeant-at-arms staff members while acting within the scope of their duties.

Hearing Date: February 10, 2026

Time Opened: 1:37 p.m.

Time Closed: 1:38 p.m.

Members of the Committee Present: Senators Gannon, Abbas, Carson, Altschiller and Reardon

Members of the Committee Absent: None

Bill Analysis: This bill indemnifies both house and senate sergeant-at-arms staff from civil claims or actions where the staff member was acting within the scope of their public duty. The indemnification of the sergeant-at-arms staff also requires that the acts committed within the scope of their duty were not considered wanton or reckless.

Sponsors:

Rep. Packard

Rep. Simpson

Rep. S. Smith

Rep. Telerski

Sen. Carson

Who supports the bill: Rick Lehman, Karen Burnett-Kurie,

Summary of testimony presented in support:

Rick Lehman (Senate Legal Counsel)

- The purpose of the bill is to extend the defense and indemnity protection that has already been afforded to General Court security, including House and Senate Sargent-at-Arms.
- At present, there is a risk they could find themselves personally liable for work-related incidents.
- The goal is for people whose job it is to protect members of the General Court to be protected from liability for actions taken within their functions.

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Date Hearing Report completed: February 11, 2026