



The front side of the Oregon State Capitol is under construction near Court Street Northeast on Wednesday, July 21, 2021 in Salem. ABIGAIL DOLLINS / STATESMAN JOURNAL

## New Ore. gun law goes into effect

**Whitney Woodworth**  
Salem Statesman Journal  
USA TODAY NETWORK

A portion of a gun-control measure the Oregon Legislature passed earlier this year requiring safe storage of firearms has gone into effect.

Oregon joins 11 other states in requiring gun owners to store their firearms in a gun room or safe or use a trigger lock when it is not being carried or under their control.

Here's what to know about the new law:

- A firearm is not considered secured if a key or combination to the trigger, cable lock or the container is readily available to a person the owner or possessor has not authorized to carry or control the firearm or a handgun is left unattended in a vehicle and is within view of people outside the vehicle.
- The safe storage requirement doesn't apply if a gun owner is either alone in their home or with other people allowed to use the gun.
- Violations of the law are civil infractions, but the penalties increase if a minor gets access to an unsecured firearm as a result of the violation.
- If an owner violates the safe storage law and, as a result, the firearm is used to injure a person or property within two years of the violation, the injured party may bring a civil lawsuit against the owner and the court must find that

the owner or possessor was negligent.

- If a person transfers a firearm and a criminal background check is required prior to the transfer, the person is also required to transfer the firearm with a trigger lock or in a locked container.

- A gun dealer must post in a prominent location a notice, in block letters not less than one inch in height, that states, "The purchaser of a firearm has an obligation to store firearms in a safe manner and to prevent unsupervised access to a firearm by a minor. If a minor or unauthorized person obtains access to a firearm and the owner failed to store the firearm in a safe manner, the owner may be in violation of the law."

- Failing to secure a firearm would result in a maximum fine of \$500.

- That fine increases to \$2,000 if a minor accesses an unsecured firearm.

Another portion of the bill imposes a new gun ban at the state Capitol and allows public school districts, community colleges and universities to set their own gun ban policies.

The bill received pushback from Republicans and spurred a failed referendum petition.

*For questions, comments and news tips, email reporter Whitney Woodworth at [wwoodworth@statesmanjournal.com](mailto:wwoodworth@statesmanjournal.com), call 503-910-6616 or follow on Twitter @wwoodworth*

## Worried about getting a COVID-19 vaccine? Here are the side effects

**Connor Radnovich**  
Salem Statesman Journal  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Like all vaccinations, COVID-19 vaccines carry the potential for side effects. These side effects are most often minor and go away in a matter of days.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, "no long-term side effects have been detected" for COVID-19 vaccines and monitoring of potential side effects from the vaccine continues.

Allergic reactions are also possible.

### Most common side effects

Here are the most common side effects from COVID-19 vaccination, according to the CDC:

In the arm where the shot is received pain, redness and swelling are common. One could also experience headaches, tiredness, muscle pain, chills, fever and nausea.

These — particularly fever and body aches — can be signs that your body is building up its protections against COVID-19.

The use of over-the-counter medication to address these side effects can be used after vaccination. It is not recommended that medication to address side effects be taken beforehand.

To reduce pain or discomfort from the shot, exercising the arm or using a cool, damp cloth can be effective. For a fever, drink fluids.

Side effects from the second shot can be more severe than the first, but this is not always the case.

### Serious side effects

Serious side effects with the COVID-19 vaccine are rare, and the CDC has determined that the benefits outweigh the risks.

Rare adverse events after the Moderna vaccine have included Guillain-Barré syndrome, a rare autoimmune neurologic disorder that includes weakness and paralysis in the limbs and muscles, and thrombocytopenia syndrome (TTS), which causes blood clots and low platelet levels.

The Moderna vaccine has been given to more than 12 million people. There have been 100 reports of Guillain-Barré, and one resulting death. Symptoms typically begin with weakness and tingling in the extremities that quickly spread.

According to the CDC, there have been 38 cases of TTS within 15 days of vaccination, and four resulting deaths. Symptoms typically appear four to 30 days after vaccination and can include persistent headaches, visual changes, abdominal pain, chest pain, leg pain, coldness in limbs and acute bruising or bleeding.

The CDC estimates that per million doses of Moderna given to men age 50-64, 1,800 hospitalizations and 140 deaths attributable to COVID-19 could be prevented by getting vaccinated, compared with 14-17 Guillain Barré cases and 1-2 TTS cases prevented by not getting vaccinated.

Myocarditis, an inflammation of the heart, has been reported after the Pfizer vaccine, particularly after the second dose and more often for men or young adults several days after vaccination.

About 141 million Americans have received both doses of the two vaccines. According to the CDC, there have been 497 cases of myocarditis, and no resulting deaths. Symptoms can include chest pain, shortness of breath and feelings of having a fast-beating, fluttering or pounding heart.

### Flu shot and COVID-19 shot

The CDC has said it is safe to get a flu shot at the same time you get one of the COVID-19 vaccine shots.

### When to call a doctor

The CDC says a vaccine recipient should call their doctor if redness or tenderness around the shot location gets worse after 24 hours, or if side effects do not seem to be going away after a few days.

Reporter Connor Radnovich covers the Oregon Legislature and state government. Contact him at [cradnovich@statesmanjournal.com](mailto:cradnovich@statesmanjournal.com) or 503-399-6864, or follow him on Twitter at @CDRadnovich.



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