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House Republican Leader Statement on Ongoing Investigation Into Recent Capitol Events

SALEM, Ore. – Today, House Republican Leader Christine Drazan (R-Canby) released the following statement on the ongoing investigation into recent capitol events:

“Throughout this year I have consistently stood for the right to protest peacefully while condemning intimidation, violence and destruction.

Though I do not agree with the decision to close the Capitol to the public, a recently released video clearly shows Representative Nearman opened a door and violent protesters then entered the Capitol. The melee with police which follows is difficult to watch without a profound sense of gratitude to the troopers who were able to prevent further violence that could have recklessly put more people in harm’s way. The impacts to the Capitol community that this elevated risk for violence caused are significant.

The investigation into this incident by law enforcement is underway and must be allowed to be completed. If the investigation finds that actions taken were criminal, legislators are not above the law and will be held responsible. As we affirm the need for due process and the right of the public to fully engage in the work of the legislature, we commit to protect public safety and hold accountable those who would willfully undermine that commitment.”

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