



# OFFICE OF THE HOUSE SPEAKER

900 Court St., N.E., Room H-269

Salem OR 97301

<http://www.oregonlegislature.gov/kotek>

## NEWS RELEASE

January 11, 2021

Danny Moran, 503-986-1204  
[danny.moran@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:danny.moran@oregonlegislature.gov)

### **House Speaker Tina Kotek calls for the resignation of Rep. Mike Nearman**

*Speaker removes Nearman's committee assignments, assesses fine for damage,  
supports immediate safety measures for Capitol occupants*

SALEM – House Speaker Tina Kotek today called for the resignation of Representative Mike Nearman following his actions to let rioters into the Oregon State Capitol as they were actively attempting to break in during the third special session of 2020. His behavior was captured on security camera footage that has since been published by a several local and national news outlets.

“Representative Nearman put every person in the Capitol in serious danger,” Speaker Kotek said. “As we tragically saw last week during the insurrection at the United States Capitol, the consequences could have been much worse had law enforcement not stepped in so quickly. His actions have created immense fear among legislators and Capitol staff. I believe he should resign immediately because he has already breached the public trust and endangered our ability to safely conduct the people’s business.”

Speaker Kotek stripped Rep. Nearman of his committee assignments and rescinded his commission appointments. She is also invoicing Rep. Nearman for \$2,000 to cover the costs to fix the damage that resulted when he allowed the rioters to enter the Capitol vestibule.

She is also joining other House members in filing a formal conduct complaint with the Legislative Equity Office, alleging that Rep. Nearman’s actions have created a hostile work environment in the Capitol.

Additionally, Rep. Nearman read a statement on the floor agreeing to immediate safety measures. According to Rep. Nearman’s letter, he will not let any non-authorized personnel into the Capitol, will rescind his badge access to the Capitol, and will provide 24 hours’ notice before each time he comes to the building. This will allow notice to be provided to all Capitol occupants so they can adjust their plans if they do not feel safe working in the building while he is present.

###