



From The House Majority Office

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**Democrats Anticipate Improved Community Safety and
Access to Drug Treatment Across the State with
Implementation of HB 4002**

*A key component of bipartisan legislation passed in 2024 will take effect this Sunday,
Sept. 1*

SALEM, Ore. – On Sunday, September 1, 2024, another portion of the Oregon Drug Intervention Plan ([HB 4002](#)) will go into effect, addressing the increased use of harmful drugs in the community and connecting people struggling with addiction to needed treatment options. The comprehensive bill was passed with broad, bipartisan support during the 2024 legislative session to urgently address the growing impact of drugs and addiction in the state.

Under the new policy, law enforcement will have the tools to confiscate drugs like meth and fentanyl, stop public drug use and get people into treatment with a focus on rehabilitation, not incarceration.

“This legislation will save lives and make our communities safer,” said **House Majority Leader Ben Bowman (D-Tigard, Metzger, & S. Beaverton)**. “But the work is not over. This crisis was created over decades, and it won’t be solved overnight. We need to remain laser-focused on getting people the treatment they need – and we need to make sure public spaces are safe and accessible for everyone to enjoy.”

The state also passed HB 5204 that, combined with HB 4002, makes up the Oregon Drug Intervention Plan to expand access and connect people to treatment. Investments of \$211 million are going out to finish shovel-ready projects and programs to expand behavioral health treatment capacity, apprenticeships and training for behavioral health workers, Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) in jails, addiction prevention programs and education, deflection-to-treatment programs, drug courts, and criminal justice system capacity.

“History tells us that simply locking people up who are struggling with addiction is not the answer,” said **Rep. Tawna Sanchez (D-North and Northeast Portland)**, who served on the Joint Committee on Addiction and Community Safety Response and co-chair of the Joint Ways and Means Committee. “It’s important to get people the treatment they need and we will start there – September 1 is just the beginning of a larger effort that the legislature has made to rebuild access to treatment for people struggling. I look forward to seeing the positive impacts this law will have on my district and the state as a whole.”

The Oregon Drug Intervention Plan includes notable requirements on reporting and data collection so that legislators can monitor the rollout of the law and ensure equitable enforcement, safer communities, and expanded treatment across Oregon.

To strengthen state and local partnerships and prepare for the next legislative session, **Rep. Jason Kropf (D-Bend), Co-chair of the Joint Committee on Addiction and Community Safety Response**, has joined other legislators to discuss county plans, tour facilities, and participate in roundtable discussions with local leaders.

“In visiting communities across the state, I have had the opportunity to see firsthand the incredible work many are undertaking and how they plan to expand their work with incoming state investments. We will continue to support those efforts as we take steps forward in addressing the addiction crisis,” **Rep. Kropf** said. “We have more work ahead of us, but together, we can and will make a healthier, safer Oregon for all.”

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