



PRESS RELEASE

OREGON HOUSE DEMOCRATS

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House Democrats Advance Coordinated Regional Responses to Homelessness

House Bill 4123 will jumpstart coordination in communities around the state to help Oregonians on the path out of homelessness

SALEM, Ore. - The Oregon House today voted to pass [House Bill 4123 A](#), which establishes pilot programs in eight regions of the state to help local communities develop a coordinated response to homelessness.

“We need urgent action at every level of government to address the homelessness crisis, and our local communities are ready to step up,” said [Rep. Jason Kropf](#) (D-Bend), chief sponsor of the measure. “This bill will strengthen local efforts across the state and support proven strategies to help people out of homelessness and into stable housing.”

According to federal data, [nearly 16,000 Oregonians](#) are homeless on any given night, a rate that is among the highest in the nation. About 75% of people experiencing homelessness in Oregon live outside the Portland metro area.

HB 4123 provides \$1 million to pilot programs in Benton County; Coos County; Deschutes County; Polk County; Tillamook County; Umatilla County; and a joint effort in Hood, Sherman, and Wasco Counties. Each pilot will establish a coordinated homeless response system with input from local governments, service providers and other stakeholders.

“By coordinating and working together, our communities can better leverage their resources and address the gaps in our current responses to homelessness,” said Rep. Kropf. “To effectively address this problem, we need to lead with compassion and invest in innovative, collaborative and forward-thinking solutions.”

Pilots will be required to adopt a five-year strategic plan to increase and streamline services to people at risk of or experiencing homelessness, eliminate racial disparities in services and create pathways to permanent and supportive housing.

The bill passed the House 57-1 and now moves to the Senate.

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