

From the Offices of Representative Jules Walters, Representative Nathan Sosa, Representative Tom Andersen

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Press Contact:

Office of Rep. Walters, <u>Rep.JulesWalters@OregonLegislature.gov</u>
Office of Rep. Sosa, <u>Rep.NathanSosa@OregonLegislature.gov</u>
Office of Rep. Andersen, <u>Rep.TomAndersen@OregonLegislature.gov</u>

Oregon House Democrats Advance Bill to Eliminate Hidden Fees in Online Advertising

SALEM, Ore. – Today, the Oregon House has passed <u>SB 430</u>, a major step forward in protecting consumers from the dreaded tacked on "convenience charge" or "service fee" — hidden mandatory charges that are added late in the online checkout process, often catching consumers off guard.

"Transparency is a cornerstone of consumer protection," said **Representative Jules Walters (D- West Linn)**. "This bill ensures that Oregonians are not misled by hidden fees when making everyday purchases online."

The legislation will require that the full price, including all required fees, be clearly disclosed at the beginning of a transaction, empowering consumers to make informed purchasing decisions. This is crucial at a time when many are spending cautiously due to federal uncertainty.

"Oregonians should be able to shop online without having to worry about hidden fees," said **Rep. Nathan Sosa (D – Greater Hillsboro)**. "Businesses that engage in deceptive pricing practices will no longer have an advantage over their competitors who are upfront with their pricing."

"Consumers shouldn't be subjected to hide-the-ball pricing," said **Rep. Tom Andersen** (**D-South Salem**). "Before hitting the 'buy now' button when making online purchases, buyers deserve to know the all-inclusive total price."

Oregon is set to join a growing number of states and federal agencies calling for an end to misleading fees in online consumer transactions. With SB 430, Oregon reaffirms its commitment to fair and honest business practices.

The bill now heads to the Senate for a concurrence vote.