

PRESS RELEASE OREGON HOUSE DEMOCRATS

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Press Contact: Hannah Kurowski hannah.kurowski@oregonlegislature.gov

Oregon House Democrats Support Creative Housing Solutions and Wildfire Recovery for Manufactured Housing Residents

House Bill 4064 A will ensure Oregonians have more affordable options as they rebuild from disaster

SALEM, Ore.—Today, Oregon House Democrats passed <u>House Bill 4064 A</u>, which will streamline local regulations on manufactured housing and clarify that Oregonians can place prefabricated homes in mobile home parks, breaking down a barrier to more innovative housing options. The bill will also help Oregonians in manufactured housing parks rebuild from the 2020 Labor Day wildfires.

"Even before the 2020 wildfires, the need for affordable housing was a crisis in our communities," said <u>Representative Pam Marsh</u> (D-Southern Jackson County). "Manufactured housing is a tried and true housing option that can give Oregonians more options to find a safe and affordable place to call home."

In 2020, the Almeda fire burned 18 mobile home parks in the Rogue Valley, destroying between 1,500 and 1,700 manufactured homes and RVs. There are approximately 140,000 manufactured homes in the state, representing an affordable homeownership option for thousands of Oregonians. Nationally, the median annual income of manufactured housing residents is about half that of households living in single family homes.

The bill also expands the use of Oregon's manufactured dwelling replacement loan program, giving Oregonians whose manufactured homes were destroyed by wildfire the option of using the loan to rebuild outside the natural disaster area.

The bill passed the House 41-11 and now goes to the Senate for consideration.