

Offices of Representative Nathan Sosa, Representative David Gomberg, Representative Farrah Chaichi, Representative Greg Smith

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Oregon House Votes to Strengthen Laws to Prevent Age Discrimination in the Workplace

**SALEM, Ore.** – Today, the Oregon House passed <u>HB3187 A</u> to address discrimination that older workers face when applying for a job. The bill prohibits employers from asking for an applicant's age, date of birth, or date of graduation until after the initial interview, unless the disclosure of age is a bona fide occupational qualification or otherwise required by law.

"This bill is an important step in ensuring that older workers are treated fairly and not prejudged because on their age," said **Rep. Nathan Sosa (D-Greater Hillsboro)**, one of the chief sponsors of the bill.

Currently, many job applications require workers to disclose their age, or when they obtained their degree or certification. This opens the door for discrimination against older workers and prevents them from having the opportunity to interview for the position.

"All too often, well-qualified and eager workers are turned away from jobs due to age discrimination," said **Rep. David Gomberg (D-Otis)**. "Our seniors deserve a fair shot in the hiring process."

"Due to rising costs of living, our workforce is increasing in age with later retirements. This is especially true for BIPOC, women, and low-income workers. All workers, regardless of age, should be considered based on their qualifications, not negative stereotypes and outdated assumptions," said **Rep. Farrah Chaichi (D-Beaverton Aloha).** 

"The reality is older workers face workplace age discrimination in Oregon. It can happen to all of us regardless of party or politics. This is wrong and I am proud to take a stance against age discrimination," commented **Rep. Greg Smith (R-Heppner).** 

HB3187 A passed the House with a vote of 42 to 16 and will now move to the Senate.