



From the Office of Majority Leader Bowman

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Oregon Tackles Red Tape Holding Up Business**

*The bills passed set the stage for 2027 economic development reform*

**SALEM, Ore.** - The Oregon Legislature unanimously passed legislation aimed at cutting bureaucratic hurdles that have slowed the start and growth of businesses across the state. The bills are part of a broader effort to improve economic development and create a more predictable environment for companies across the state.

“Oregon should be a place where you can build, invest, and create jobs without getting lost in a maze of shifting rules and unclear timelines,” said **House Majority Leader Bowman (D-Tigard, Metzger, S Beaverton)**. “This is about creating transparent and accountable administrative processes, so businesses know they can grow and succeed here with confidence.”

House Bills 4020 and 4021, a reform package championed by House Majority Leader Bowman, make state permitting and rulemaking more transparent, predictable, and accountable.

[HB 4020](#) requires agencies track how long permits take, find where delays happen, and suggest changes to fix them so lawmakers can act, helping prevent businesses from being held up for months or years. It also requires agencies to clearly explain the rules behind permit denials and guide applicants on how to appeal.

[HB 4021](#) sets baseline, statewide standards for how permanent rules take effect. For environmental and land use agencies, new or changed rules must take effect at least 28 days after they are filed, and agencies must provide advance notice along with clear contact information. This gives businesses, landowners, and the public time to understand and prepare for new requirements and ensure everyone can comply and plan effectively.

Business, local government, and project sponsors have long raised concerns that slow, unpredictable rules and permits make it harder for businesses to invest in their communities.

These bills aim to bring more clarity and measurement to those systems, not weaken the protections they enforce.

With bipartisan support, the bills now head to the Governor's desk for signature.

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