

Press Release

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House Passes Worker Layoff Notification Protection

SALEM – The Oregon House of Representatives voted 33-23 today to ensure workers continue to be notified when their employers intend mass layoffs.

<u>House Bill 2567</u>, modeled after the federal Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act (WARN Act), requires employers with 100 or more employees to provide 60 days' notice to employees and certain officials before ceasing operations, relocating or ordering a mass layoff involving 50 or more employees.

Rep. Brad Witt (D-Clatskanie) was the chief sponsor of the bill and carried it on the floor today.

"This is an attempt to eliminate, to the greatest extent possible, economic dislocation," Rep. Witt said. "Through early notice, providers of services and the workers themselves can minimize the economic impact of these events."

Rep. Teresa Alonso Leon (D-Woodburn) was a sponsor on the bill.

"This bill provides needed assurances for Oregonians," Rep. Alonso Leon said. "Too often, layoffs have devastating impacts to the financial well-being of individuals and families. With this, we can provide some certainty for Oregonians during challenging times."

The bill now goes to the Senate.