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## House Passes Bill to Ensure State Agencies Follow Through on Audit Recommendations

SALEM – Today the Oregon House unanimously passed legislation that requires state agencies to report on the progress they are making in implementing state audit recommendations, another step forward in improving efficiency in state agencies.

Chief sponsored by Representative Chris Harker (D-Washington County) and House Democratic Leader Dave Hunt (D-Clackamas County), HB 3291 requires that agencies audited by the Oregon Secretary of State report to the legislature on their progress within six months of receiving the recommendations. In outlining specific procedures for follow-up, the bill ensures that audits act as well-honed legislative tools to measure success and promote improvement.

"This is a simple but important bill intended to hold state agencies accountable to the public interest," said Rep. Harker, co-chair of the Audits and Information Technology committee. "For state agencies, accountability should follow from state audits. But the audits are useless without follow through."

Hunt agreed: "This bill establishes a missing link between the audits we pay for and the accountability we need. It's another tool in our toolbox to ensure that government is working as efficiently as possible and is always looking for ways to improve its service to Oregonians."

"State agencies need to be held accountable when they are asked to make changes to better provide services to Oregonians," said Representative Greg Matthews (D-Gresham), who cosponsored the bill. "This bill will help ensure we get the most out of every tax dollar."

HB 3291 now moves to the Senate for consideration.