



HOUSE MAJORITY LEADER
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PRESS RELEASE

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House Passes Bill to Support Visiting Athletes *Representative Hoyle introduced bill to help physical therapists who treat Olympic-caliber competitors*

SALEM – When track-and-field stars from across the world come to Eugene to compete in the U.S. Olympic Trials, they bring with them coaches and a variety of essential support staff. But currently, state law says they cannot bring physical therapists, who are often essential for their medical support.

House Bill 2678 would change that. It would allow athletes from out-of-state to bring physical therapists with them as they compete in Oregon. Allowing these athletes to compete with the support staff they need will help ensure the success of the Olympic Trials, which brings over 21,000 spectators and over 1,000 athletes to Oregon.

“Local businesses in Lane County receive a significant benefit from these events, and it is important to make sure these visiting athletes have the appropriate medical support,” said Majority Leader Val Hoyle (D-West Eugene), who introduced the bill.

“It’s an important change in the law,” Hoyle said. “By allowing this change, we have an opportunity to reduce the risk of injuries and allow these athletes to compete under the best conditions for the right to represent Team USA at the Olympics.”

House Bill 2678 passed the House on Wednesday by a vote of 56-to-0. It next goes to the Senate for consideration.

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