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Senator Knopp Introduces Bill Sponsored by All 30 Senators
*Legislation Bans Taxpayer Funded Out-of-State Travel Reimbursements
for State Workers*

SALEM, Ore. – In August 2022, Willamette Week published a [story](#) which highlighted a Department of Administrative Services (DAS) policy allowing state employees to work remotely while living in states with no income tax, and having their travel reimbursed by taxpayers. The [policy](#) states that “employees who work under the full-time remote work model must be reimbursed by the agency for travel to and from the central workplace.” In response, Senate Republican Leader Tim Knopp (R-Bend) introduced [SB 853](#).

Senator Knopp released the following statement:

“Last summer, I heard from taxpayers and state employees alike who were outraged at the practice of reimbursing travel for out-of-state, highly-paid government workers to be flown back to Oregon to do their job at taxpayer expense. It’s a fundamental equity issue. Most local state employees don’t get paid to commute to work.

I’m thankful to have 29 Senate co-sponsors and impressive bipartisan support in the House. Now begins the work of advancing it through the process.”

The full text of Senate Bill 853 can be found [here](#). This legislation is part of Oregon Senate Republicans’ **Equitable Oregon** Agenda, which can be found [here](#).

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