



## OFFICE OF THE HOUSE SPEAKER

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### NEWS RELEASE

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## **Statement by House Speaker Tina Kotek on Representative Diego Hernandez**

Today, in accordance with Legislative conduct rules, the Legislative Equity Officer and an independent investigator recommended that immediate safety actions be taken to protect individuals involved in complaints regarding Rep. Diego Hernandez's conduct. House Speaker Tina Kotek issued the following statement:

“I am deeply concerned that members of the broader Capitol community feel unsafe or subject to retaliation by Rep. Hernandez. I want those individuals to know they did the right thing by coming forward, and I am grateful to the House Conduct Committee for taking swift action to impose the measures they deemed necessary to address immediate safety concerns.

“I supported Rep. Hernandez's announcement last month that he would be taking a leave of absence from his duties to seek guidance and focus on his physical and emotional health, and removed his committee assignments to facilitate that leave. The House Conduct Committee's action today is a very serious development. I believe Rep. Hernandez should resign from the Legislature and focus completely on getting the support he needs.”

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