



**Office of Senator Kate Lieber**  
Salem, Oregon  
Oregon State Legislature

## Press Release

February 5, 2021

CONTACT: Sen.KateLieber@OregonLegislature.Gov

Amanda Kraus: Amanda.Kraus@OregonLegislature.Gov

### **Senator Kate Lieber Calls on Representative Diego Hernandez to Resign**

SALEM - In response to the investigations and findings regarding the conduct of Representative Hernandez (D-House District 47), Senator Kate Lieber (D-Senate District 14) issued the following statement:

“Thank you to all of the incredibly brave women who came forward to share their experiences of abuse, harassment and retaliation by Representative Diego Hernandez. I also want to acknowledge any individuals who still remain anonymous, and who may not have felt safe coming forward with their experience.

“The Oregon State Capitol is the people’s building and it should be a safe and welcoming space for work and civic engagement. No person, nor any elected official, should be allowed to make Oregonians feel unsafe in their Capitol. Elected officials should be held to the highest standards of conduct, and I am thankful that my colleagues in the House Conduct Committee are taking steps to hold Representative Hernandez accountable for his actions and the toxic environment he has created. Representative Hernandez should resign immediately or be expelled.

“The investigation and conduct proceedings for Representative Hernandez have revealed that the Legislature still has a lot of work to do to make the Capitol a safe and welcoming workplace. The length of the investigation and the experiences of survivors in the investigation and hearings cannot be ignored, and we must work to make sure that accountability processes move quicker and are not traumatizing for survivors.

“As a former prosecutor, I have had many opportunities to work with survivors and support them in seeking a path to justice that works for them. I look forward to using that experience in my work as a member of the Oregon State Legislature.

“To every Oregon survivor: I hear you, I see you, I believe you, and I will work to make the Oregon Capitol a safe place for you to work, advocate and share your experiences. It is our duty as legislators to ensure that our statements of support become a reality for all survivors, and I will work every day to make our Capitol an inclusive and safe space for all.”

###