

2022 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY REPORT

BUSINESS AND CONSUMER PROTECTION



This Legislative Summary Report highlights Business and Consumer Protection policy measures that received a public hearing during the 2022 Regular Legislative Session. The report is organized by sub-topics and includes the measure number; the measure status: enacted [✓] or not enacted [✗]; and a brief description of the measure.

Business and Consumer Protection policy sub-topics:

- [Business Assistance](#)
- [Economic Development](#)
- [General Business Policy and Licensing](#)

Business Assistance

- [HB 4015](#) ✓ Makes modifications to the Entrepreneurial Development Loan Fund program, including permanently increasing the maximum loan amount available to eligible businesses to \$1 million while capping the amount of annual revenue a business can have to be eligible for a loan to \$1.5 million.
- [HB 4040](#) ✗ Would have provided \$50 million from the General Fund in the 2021-2023 biennium to support Oregon cultural organizations that suffered significant revenue loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Economic Development

- [SB 1579](#) ✓ Establishes the Economic Equity Investment Program, within the Oregon Business Development Department (Business Oregon), for awarding grants to organizations providing culturally responsive services supporting economic stability, self-sufficiency, wealth building, and economic equity among disadvantaged individuals, families, businesses, and communities in Oregon.
- [HB 4048](#) ✗ Would have directed the Oregon Business Development Department (Business Oregon) to conduct comprehensive studies on the economic impacts of six specified emerging economic sectors: (1) organic agriculture and organic products; 2) cannabis; 3) live performance; 4) commercial music; 5) film and video; and 6) ocean resources and the blue economy.

Economic Development, cont'd

- HB 4153 ✓ Creates the Creative Opportunity Program within the Oregon Film and Video Office to support film, television, interactive, animation, and media industries in Oregon. The measure also reallocates two percent of the money in the Oregon Production Investment Fund to the program.

General Business Policy and Licensing

- SB 1512 A ✗ Would have restricted how occupational or professional licensing boards consider criminal convictions of applicants and established a process for determining if a person's criminal conviction should result in the denial of a license. The measure also would have prohibited inquiries into juvenile court records except for employers, agencies, or licensing boards explicitly authorized to do so.
- SB 1549 ✓ Establishes a licensing requirement for temporary staffing agencies that provide workers for health care services or assistance with daily living activities to be administered by the Health Licensing Office of the Oregon Health Authority.
- SB 1562 ✗ Would have established licensure for qualified individuals to provide supervisory, provisional, educational, medical, and legal sign language services in Oregon.
- SB 1565 ✓ Requires a place of public accommodation such as restaurants, hotels, doctors' office, retail stores, and other businesses to accept United States coin and currency as payment for goods and services.
- HB 4017 A ✗ Would have required data brokers handling the personal information of Oregonians to register annually with the Department of Consumer and Business Services, with information of all registrants available to the public on the agency's website.
- HB 4020 ✗ Would have prohibited publicly traded contractors performing improvements of at least \$20,000 to owner-occupied one- and two-family dwellings from collecting or retaining more than 50 percent of the contract price before obtaining final approval from the homeowner.
- HB 4092 ✓ Modifies members and duties of the [Oregon Broadband Advisory Council](#). Directs the Oregon Broadband Office (Office) to develop a broadband action plan and a digital equity plan, and requires the Office to collect geospatial data from internet service providers and other entities with broadband infrastructure to determine eligibility for grants and loans and confirm the allocation of funds from the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. The measure also establishes the Connecting Oregon Libraries Fund to support libraries' access

General Business Policy and Licensing, cont'd

to broadband. Lastly, the bill requires the Oregon Public Utility Commission to study the [Oregon Telephone Assistance Program](#) and make recommendations to help low-income residential customers access broadband or other telecommunications services.

- HB 4103 ✓ Increases penalties that the Oregon Real Estate Agency may assess for license violations, which has not changed since 1991. The measure proposes civil penalties of at least \$1,000 and not more than \$2,500 for a first offense and at least \$2,500 and not more than \$5,000 for second and subsequent offenses.
- HB 4106 ✓ Allows hospitals to employ individuals as surgical technologists who have either completed or are enrolled in a registered surgical technologist apprenticeship program.