

# 2022 Legislative Session Summary

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## Economic Recovery & Workforce Development

### Key Investments

An investment in workforce development to help workers access the training they will need to succeed, including **\$200 million** for Future Ready Oregon (SB 1545)

Over **\$100 million** to help rebuild critical infrastructure in rural Oregon, which will support local economies and create jobs across the state

### Key Policies

**OPB:** [Nurses would get more support under Oregon legislative plan \(HB 4003\)](#)

Directs the state to issue nursing intern licenses to students meeting certain qualifications and allow them to practice under the supervision of a registered nurse.

Allows nursing interns to receive pay and school credit if their institution allows, and expands programs supporting the mental health and overall wellness of nurses in Oregon's health care industry. Also extends a provision put in place by the state during the pandemic allowing emergency licensure of nurses for an additional 90 days following the end of Oregon's public health emergency declaration on April 1.

**Oregon Capital Chronicle:** [House plan would give mental health facilities nearly \\$200 million for staffing \(HB 4004\)](#)

Increases state payments to nonprofits that provide therapy, life skills training and addiction treatment to expand and retain staff.

**OPB:** [Oregon Legislature passes plan to offer bigger loans to startups, small businesses \(HB4015\)](#)

Raises the cap on direct loans to startups through Business Oregon's Entrepreneurial Development Loan Fund to \$1 million, up from the current, temporary limit of \$250,000.

**Statesman Journal:** [Oregon lawmakers push for plan to get \\$200M for high-speed broadband access \(HB 4092\)](#)

Updates the membership and authority of the Oregon Broadband Advisory Council and provides oversight and recommendations to implement broadband goals.

Sets a strategic framework for utilizing state and federal broadband investment.

Creates criteria for Oregon to work with providers to collect information and develop statewide maps for determining eligibility for funds and to confirm the allocation.

Establishes the Connecting Oregon Libraries Fund and allocates funds for the purpose of providing matching funds for federal money received by the State Library.

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Requires the Public Utilities Commission to study the feasibility of expanding the Oregon Telephone Assistance Program, which lowers the monthly cost of phone or broadband services for low-income individuals.

**The Skanner:** [House Democrats Invest in Oregon Talent and Jobs for Growing Film Industry Across the State \(HB 4153\)](#)

Sets aside 2% of the \$20 million invested in the Oregon Production Investment Fund (OPIF) annually to attract and retain Oregon talent for film, video and TV productions across the state.

**The Oregonian:** [Oregon Legislature approves Gov. Kate Brown's \\$200 million workforce plan \(SB1545\)](#)

The bill will direct funding to local workforce development boards, community colleges and state agencies to support youth, training and apprenticeship programs that prioritize underserved communities.

Registered apprenticeship programs, youth programs, and workforce readiness grants supported by funding from the bill will prioritize the health care, manufacturing, and technology sectors, although pre-apprenticeship programs in construction will remain eligible for funding.

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## A Place to Call Home

**Key Investments** [Oregon Democrats propose \\$400M to tackle homelessness and housing statewide \(OPB\)](#). A **\$400 million** package to tackle the urgent housing and homelessness crisis:

\$165 million for homelessness services: shelters, wrap-around support services, Project Turnkey

\$215 million to build and preserve affordable housing: acquiring land, helping with building costs

\$20 million to improve access to homeownership: home loan program

### Key Policies

**HB 4013:** [OLIS](#): Waives public university tuition and fees for current and former unaccompanied homeless youth. The bill will also expand the reach of a services for this population, who are ages 14 to 24, experiencing homelessness, and not in the custody of a parent or guardian.

**Statesman Journal:** [Salem could soon have more micro-shelter locations, thanks to the Legislature](#) (HB 4037)

Requires Department of Administrative Services to use reasonable efforts to lease certain unused or underutilized state real property owned by department to City of Salem for use as shelters.

**HB 4064:** [OLIS](#): Streamlines local regulations on manufactured housing and clarify that Oregonians can place prefabricated homes in mobile home parks. The bill will also help Oregonians in manufactured housing parks rebuild from the 2020 Labor Day wildfires.

**HB 4123:** [OLIS](#): \$1 million to pilot programs in Benton County; Coos County; Deschutes County; Polk County; Tillamook County; Umatilla County; and a joint effort in Hood, Sherman, and Wasco Counties. Each pilot will establish a coordinated homeless response system with input from local governments, service providers and other stakeholders.

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## Education & Child Care

### Key Investments

**\$300 million** education package to address the staffing crisis in Oregon's schools, create summer learning opportunities, support wild-fire impacted school districts, and address education disparities by funding the Pacific Islander Student Success Plan and adding \$5 million to the African American/Black Student Success Plan.

**\$100 million** investment to expand access to childcare and rebuild the childcare workforce.

### Key Policies

**OPB:** [Oregon invests \\$150 million in summer learning programs](#)

Summer K-8 Enrichment Grants, funding enrichment activities, academic learning, and mental health support for kids.

Summer High School Academic Grants, supporting summer school programs that help high school students stay on track for graduation.

Summer Community Activity Grants, helping our community partners provide new or existing summer activities such as day camps, park programs, and tutoring

**Oregon Capital Chronicle:** [Oregon lawmakers looking to make child care more affordable, available \(HB 4005\)](#)

\$65.7M on grants for new child care providers and existing facilities that plan to hire more staff or otherwise expand their programs.

\$21 million for direct payments to child care workers as incentives to stay in the workplace.

**Oregon Capital Chronicle:** [Legislature passes package to help boost the state's teacher workforce amid shortages \(HB 4030\)](#)

\$100 million for districts to use for recruitment and retention efforts, including bonuses, and to reimburse substitute teachers and instructional assistants for training costs they incur through January 2024.

The state Teacher Standards and Practices Commission will receive \$700,000 to establish license reciprocity so out-of-state teachers could skip relicensing, improve the application process for school employees in Oregon and create a single place to apply for school jobs across the state.

**KOBIS:** [Bill ensuring funding for wildfire affected schools, one step closer to passing \(HB 4026\)](#)

The bill will transfer \$25 million dollars from the Student Success Act's statewide education initiatives account to pay for grants to impacted districts for four years

**OPB:** [Oregon superintendent protections bill passes House \(SB 1521\)](#)

If superintendents have a "no cause" firing clause in their contract, they need to receive 12 months' notice of such a termination by the school board. The bill also prevents a school board from disciplining or firing a superintendent for following local, state or federal laws.

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### Access to Healthcare & Healthy Communities

**Key Investments: Over \$300 million** for healthcare needs, including:

Protecting health coverage for low-income Oregonians (HB 4035): The bill provides OHA with the ability to develop a Medicaid redetermination process and help 1.4 million Oregonians maintain coverage when the federal COVID-19 public health emergency and related continuous coverage provisions end.

\$150 million to support behavioral health workers and providers (HB 4004): Requires Oregon Health Authority to distribute grants to behavioral health care providers for staff compensation and workforce retention and recruitment.

\$45 million to address the crisis in Oregon's health care workforce at OHSU

Support for Oregon nurses who are experiencing burnout from the extreme stress of the pandemic (HB 4003): directs the Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN) to administer a nurse internship licensure program and support an Oregon nonprofit organization that promotes the well-being of Oregon health professionals

#### Key Policies

**Portland Business Journal:** [Oregon takes step toward preserving coverage for thousands who could lose Medicaid \(HB 4035\)](#)

**Lund Report:** HB Would Set Up Mobile Health Units In Oregon (HB 4052)

Establishes a pilot program for the Oregon Health Authority to operate two culturally and linguistically specific mobile health units to serve populations with histories of poor health or social outcomes.

OHA must convene an advisory committee to provide guidance on establishing, funding, and operating the pilot program, and to study the feasibility of expanding mobile health units throughout the state.

**4113:** [OLIS](#): Includes bladder and gynecologic cancers as occupational diseases for firefighters.

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### Equity & Justice For All

**Key Investments: Smart investments in community safety, including**

\$15 million to support Community-Based Organizations working to prevent violence

\$5 million to expand hospital-based community violence prevention programs

\$13 million to help local communities around the state clean up trash and provide sanitation services

\$14 million to support services for crime victims

\$10 million for the Oregon Domestic & Sexual Violence Services Fund

#### Key Policies

**The Oregonian:** [Oregon poised to become 8th state to require overtime pay for farmworkers \(HB4002\)](#)

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### [4002\)](#)

Establishes a 40-hour overtime pay threshold for farmworkers, to be phased in by 2027. Creates refundable tax credits for farmers to help pay for overtime. Sets up process to establish an advance payment system for farmers and sets aside \$10 million for the advance payment system.

### **Lund Report:** [Oregon To Use Medicaid Funds For Violence Intervention \(HB 4045\)](#)

Funded programs should provide evidence-based, trauma-informed, supportive and non-psychotherapeutic services, as well as peer support or counseling, mentorship, conflict mediation, crisis intervention, targeted case management, referrals to health care and social service providers, and screening services aimed at preventing future injury, improving health outcomes and reducing the likelihood the victim will commit or promote violence themselves.

### **Statesman Journal:** [Oregon homicides, suicides are rising. How can we prevent gun violence? \(HB4045\)](#)

Boosts capacity for hospital-based violence intervention programs across Oregon. These programs are proven to improve public safety by bringing interventions into healthcare settings, cutting off the cycle of violence and preventing further damage.

### **Mail Tribune:** [Bill tackles worker exploitation at illegal pot grows \(HB 4074\)](#)

\$6 million in grant funding to community-based organizations responding to humanitarian concerns at illegal marijuana operations.

### **KOIN:** [Oregon bill would give back to small businesses for burglaries \(HB 4075\)](#)

Makes it easier for crime victims to receive restitution including businesses. Only after victims are paid in full would prosecuted criminals pay court fines.

### **The Skanner:** [Oregon House Democrats Pass Bill Modernizing Online Voter Registration System \(HB4133\)](#)

Allows citizens to register to vote online using their Social Security number. Allows third-party organizations approved by the Secretary of State, such as vote.gov, to assist with online registration submissions.

### **OPB:** [Oregon lawmakers take fresh look at bill to limit minor traffic stops \(SB 1510\)](#)

Makes changes to traffic stops, the state's parole and probation policies, and doles out millions aimed at steering social services to people of color.

### **Oregon Capital Chronicle:** [Legal aid for immigrants facing deportation moves forward in Oregon Senate \(SB 1543\)](#)

Sets aside \$15 million for attorneys to provide free legal representation on immigration matters, prioritizing deportation cases.

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## Protecting Communities from Climate Change

**Key Investments:** A \$100 million climate resilience budget aims to tackle drought, extreme weather, and infrastructure needs. Includes Healthy Homes Repair Fund, solar and storage rebates, EV charging and rebates, and supports the installation of air conditioners, air filters and heat pumps.

Oregon's climate resiliency budget to prevent deaths, save 5 billion gallons by 2030 (KTTL); Flush Oregon budget boosts EV and solar rebates, electric truck charging (Portland Business Journal)

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## Key Policies

### **Portland Tribune:** [Forest harvest tax bill goes to governor \(HB 4055\)](#)

One of three bills that have been written to codify the objectives set out in the Private Forest Accord. It continues the harvest tax without major changes in structure of tax. It begins discussion on the next rate update earlier in the legislative process to provide more transparency. It continues the conversation about how the tax works – the process and structure. And finally, it incorporates an additional component of the tax, to fund mitigation of forest practices, as negotiated in the Private Forest Accord.

### **KDRV:** [Oregon Bill through Legislature with Less \(Water\) Pressure \(HB 4057\)](#)

Adopts efficiency standards for urban landscaping with new requirements for sprinklers to reduce water and energy consumption, thus reducing those costs.

### **The Oregonian:** [Journalists would get more access to Oregon wildfire zones under bill \(HB 4087\)](#)

Requires on-scene responders to allow credentialed journalists to proceed unescorted through checkpoints if conditions are deemed safe enough to allow it.

### **Oregon Capital Chronicle:** [Private Forest Accord passes Senate, clearing way for House vote \(SB1501\)](#)

Requiring larger unlogged zones around rivers to protect fish habitat and ending commercial beaver trapping and the lethal removal of beavers on private forestland. Calls for improving roads in private forests and sets up stricter logging standards on slopes, which can cause landslides that send harmful debris into rivers.

### **Statesman Journal:** [Plan to increase access to air conditioning passes Legislature \(SB 1536\)](#)

Limits the restrictions landlords, homeowners and condominium associations, and local governments can place on installing portable cooling devices in residences.

Directs the Oregon Health Authority to create a program to acquire and distribute air conditioners and air filters on an emergency basis to low-income Oregonians and renters. The bill allocates \$5 million for the program.

Requires that residential rental units with construction permits approved after April 1, 2024 provide cooling in at least one room of the unit.

A \$2 million grant program will assist landlords in creating community cooling spaces during extreme heat events.

Establishes a \$10 million Heat Pump Deployment Program to provide assistance for purchasing and installing heat and cooling pumps and provides additional funding to expand the Oregon Department of Human Services' grant program for emergency air, warming and cooling shelters.

Requires the State Department of Energy to study the cooling and electrical needs of public housing, manufactured home parks and recreational vehicle parks.

\$2 million appropriation to the Department of Human Services for grants for emergency shelters or warming or cooling shelters.

### **The Oregonian:** [Editorial: Elliott State Forest proposal a win for Oregon \(SB 1546\)](#)

Turns the Elliott into a publicly-owned research forest with limited timber harvesting and protected acreage for wildlife.

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### Bringing Every Oregonian Along

#### Key Investments: a nearly \$300 million cost of living relief package, including:

Direct, one-time relief payments of \$600 that will help more than 240,000 low-wage workers cover their essential needs (**HB 4157**) for those who are receiving EITC

\$100 million to address the shortage of affordable childcare across the state (**HB 4005**): Increases the amount of money providers who accept Employment Related Day Care (ERDC) subsidies receive per child, getting to more equitable compensation rates. This will also increase purchasing power for parents who utilize ERDC.

Outreach to help working families access tax relief (**HB 4117**): Tax help for low-income and marginalized communities, especially to apply for EITC

#### Key Policies

**HB 4138:** [OLIS](#) :Closes a loophole used to surprise workers with insurance benefit reductions when they are deemed too disabled to return to their old job.

**Oregon Capital Chronicle:** [Oregon workers earning the lowest wages would benefit hugely from one-time state help \(HB 4157\)](#)

**The Oregonian:** [Oregon lawmakers approve \\$600 stimulus payments for low-income workers \(HB4157\)](#)

**SB 1579:** [OLIS](#): Directs Business Oregon to implement an Economic Equity Investment Program to award grants to qualified organizations that provide culturally responsive services to disadvantaged individuals, families, businesses and communities.