



PRESS RELEASE

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Oregon House Votes to Reduce Paperwork for Struggling Families

HB 2219 would streamline the application process for state services

SALEM – Today, the Oregon House of Representatives voted unanimously to decrease the number of hurdles Oregon families need to jump in order to receive services they need.

House Bill 2219 directs the Department of Human Services to convene a work group with various state agencies, and the state's Chief Information Officer, to come up with a consolidated application process to apply for and obtain assistance. Currently, Oregonians seeking services can spend hours filling out redundant forms for multiple agencies, wasting time and resources for both individuals seeking services and the agencies that process their materials.

“With a streamlined application process, a single mother working multiple jobs to make ends meet will no longer have to spend hours filling out redundant forms for multiple agencies to receive the benefits that she and her children need and deserve,” said Rep. Nancy Nathanson (D-Eugene), chief sponsor of the bill. “We need to be spending more time helping Oregon families and less time filling out and processing government paperwork.”

Other states have succeeded in making the idea of simplification work. Pennsylvania has an award winning online application process called Compass that allows individuals to submit and track their application all in one place. Instead of filling out multiple forms, an individual can apply for the services they need all at once, all in one place.

The bill now moves to the Senate for consideration.

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