



**REPRESENTATIVE RON NOBLE
OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HOUSE DISTRICT 24**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Oregon legislators refuse to be held accountable

SALEM, Oregon— Today, the Oregon House of Representatives failed to hold themselves accountable for criminal acts of sexual harassment in the Capitol. HB 3411 would hold legislative officials and lobbyists to a higher standard by implementing mandatory reporting following these intolerable incidents.

Representative Ron Noble (R- McMinnville) issued the following statement on the floor:

“Last Thursday we passed landmark legislation in the capitol in HCR 20 and HB 3377. However, the two bills deal with internal issues. There is one thing we have not dealt with: Criminal Conduct. Specifically, this addresses physical sexual harassment. It’s not about sex. It’s about power. There is a power gap here and we have a certain responsibility as elected officials to address that. This is something we need to consider. How can we not expect our behavior to be held at the same standard as our fellow Oregonians?”

HB 3411 provides criminal sanctions specific to physical sexual harassment:

- Establishes mandatory reporting of physical sexual harassment involving a legislative official or lobbyist;
- Adds the offense of knowingly subjecting a person to offensive physical contact involving intimate body parts to the crime of official misconduct;
- Establishes the offense of unlawful interference (retaliation) with the investigation of a harassment investigation;
- Establishes the offense of intentionally making a false report of physical sexual harassment.

“We need to hold ourselves accountable. Oregon deserves better.” Rep. Noble stated.

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