

HEALTH & SAFETY

Health and safety are foundational for Oregonians to learn, work, and thrive in their family lives. But people have faced real challenges getting appointments with health care providers, live with the threat of wildfires, and have seen that mass shootings can happen anywhere.

Oregon Democrats addressed these issues and more with legislation they passed in the 2025 session. The benefits for Oregonians will deepen as these policies take root.

To increase health care access, Oregon Democrats:

- Required medical professionals to be in charge of clinics, not profit-driven investors (SB 951)
- Helped expand the health care workforce (SB 476 & HB 2024)
- Prohibited new non-compete contracts for doctors, so they can keep seeing you when they change jobs (HB 3410)
- Improved the process for prior authorization from insurance companies (HB 3134)
- Expanded insurance coverage of prosthetic and orthotic devices (SB 699)
- Made more costs eligible for meeting the deductible on your health plan (HB 2540)

"Our families and neighbors want access to quality, affordable health care, but when doctors' offices are bought out and run by for-profit investors, things get worse for patients."

Senator Deb Patterson (D - Salem),
Co-sponsor of Senate Bill 951

To improve public safety, Oregon Democrats:

- Outlawed devices like bump stocks, equipment used in America's deadliest mass shootings (SB 243)
- Created new violence-prevention measures for the health care workforce (SB 537)
- Invested in wildfire risk reduction, preparedness, and landscape resilience (HB 3940)
- Promoted communities working together to lower hazards of wildfire (SB 85)
- Added stronger penalties for dealing fentanyl (SB 236)
- Closed a loophole in sentencing in domestic violence cases (HB 2975)
- Funded mediation in family court, proven to lower stress and trauma for children involved in disputes (SB 97)
- Allowed rental guests to sue innkeepers or landlords who take photos or record videos or audio of them in private areas of a place they rent (SB 470)



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