



SENATE MAJORITY OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 25, 2026

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Child Labor Protections Pass the Oregon Senate

Legislation is a response to erosion of trust in the federal government to look out for Americans

SALEM, OR – Nealy 90 years ago the United States took bold action to protect children from exploitation, including minimum age and hour guardrails in the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938.

That progress is under threat from a Trump administration that has signaled a [willingness to undermine those rules](#). Oregon lawmakers have stepped in to shore up safeguards for minors under House Bill 4013, which passed the state Senate today.

“It’s essential we maintain the status quo on child labor laws,” said **Senator Kathleen Taylor (D – SE Portland and Milwaukie)**. “We must continue to protect future generations of Oregonians.”

Under the measure, Oregon maintains strong oversight of employment certificates for businesses that hire young workers and preserves state authority to adopt stronger protections when necessary.

“Every child deserves to be safe, whether they are at school, at home, or at a part-time job,” said **Senator Sara Gelsner Blouin (D – Corvallis, Albany & S. Salem)**. “Our state is prepared to defend their rights even if the federal government walks away from the responsibility.”

The measure passed in a vote of 18 to 11. It goes next to Governor Tina Kotek for her signature.

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