



Office of Senator Michael Dembrow

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **School Air Quality Solutions Passed by Oregon Senate**

**SALEM, Ore.** - Today, the Oregon Senate passed [House Bill 3031](#) with bipartisan support to improve air quality and eliminate airborne pathogens in schools around the state, keeping Oregon students and teachers safe and healthy.

The bill will help Oregon schools receive federal funds to upgrade their HVAC systems, assess ventilation systems, place carbon dioxide monitors in each classroom, and submit a report on ventilation and carbon dioxide levels to a mechanical engineer for review. The districts will then implement any improvements recommended by the engineer.

“Too many students and teachers are spending their days breathing toxic chemicals, mold, viruses, bacteria, asbestos, and pollution. Our children have the right to a safe and healthy school environment,” said **Senator Michael Dembrow (D-Portland)**, co-chief sponsor of the bill. “This legislation will make sure schools in every corner of our state support the health and welfare of our students and teachers.”

The COVID-19 pandemic put a spotlight on the importance of good ventilation as it relates to health and safety, particularly in classrooms. Research in [Oregon](#) and [nationally](#) demonstrated many public schools are in need of ventilation system improvements.

Supporting Oregon’s students is a key component of [Senate Democrats’ 2023 Oregon Works agenda](#).

HB 3031 is one of the hundreds of bills that Senate Democrats rescued by negotiating an end to the Senate Republican walkout. Thanks to Senate Democrats showing up, doing their jobs, and delivering results for the people of Oregon, SB 3031 now moves to the Governor’s desk for consideration.

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