



OREGON SENATE DEMOCRATS

Salem, Oregon
Oregon State Legislature

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Oregon Senate Democrats Improve Justice in the Courts

SALEM – Today, Senator Prozanski (D-Eugene) carried Senate Bill 193 to passage. The bill will bring Oregon statutes in alignment with two separate court decisions in the U.S. Supreme Court and the Oregon Supreme Court.

Last year, the U.S. Supreme Court [ruled](#) that defendants cannot be found guilty if the jury was not unanimous in their decision. Further, a not guilty verdict can occur on a concurrence of at least 10 of 12 jurors. At the time of the ruling, Oregon was the last state to allow non-unanimous jury guilty convictions.

Also in 2020, the Oregon Supreme Court [ruled](#) that the statutory cap on noneconomic damages for claims of bodily injury violated the remedy clause of the state's constitution. The cap limited the court's ability to award a plaintiff the appropriate level of compensation when these injuries occur.

"This bill will revise our state statutes to comply with court rulings that declared those statutes unconstitutional," said Senator Prozanski, chair of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Measure 110 Implementation.

"In addition, the bill makes it clear that it takes a unanimous jury verdict to find a defendant guilty of a criminal offense and that individuals who have experienced bodily injuries or harm can be properly compensated," added Senator Prozanski.

Senate Democrats passed Senate Bill 193 on a 17-10 vote. It now goes to the House of Representatives for consideration.

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