



Office of Senator Chris Gorsek

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Protections for Injured Workers in Need of Medical Care Unanimously Pass Oregon Senate

Senate Bill 418 would allow more workers to be compensated for time away from work for medical or physical therapy appointments

SALEM, Ore - [Senate Bill 418](#) just unanimously passed the Oregon State Senate. This new legislation will ensure workers who were injured on the job and received workers' compensation do not have to use vacation or sick time to get related medical treatment.

Under the current law, workers who have settled their workers' compensation claims are entitled to be paid for the time they miss from work due to their injury. However, workers can only get paid if they miss more than four hours of work at a time. This has created a problem for workers who need ongoing medical care or physical therapy sessions, which are typically shorter than four hours.

As a result, many workers have had to use their own personal leave, sick time, or other accrued paid time off just to attend medical appointments related to their work injury. In some cases, workers have even had to skip appointments altogether because they cannot afford to miss work without compensation.

"This is a simple fix that will make people's lives easier and help workers injured on the job get the care they need," said **Senator Chris Gorsek, D-Troutdale**, chief sponsor of Senate Bill 418.

The bill has garnered support from frontline workers such as grocery store workers, nurses and firefighters, who believe it will make a meaningful difference in the lives of injured workers.

Oregon Senate Democrats' [2023 Oregon Works agenda](#) includes fighting for a fairer deal for Oregon workers.

Senate Bill 418 now moves to the House of Representatives for consideration.

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