

Office of Senator Deb Patterson

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Oregon Senate Votes to Create Brain Injury Resource Facilitation Program

Senate Bill 420 provides crucial support and services to individuals affected by brain injuries.

SALEM, Ore - Today, the Senate passed <u>Senate Bill 420</u> with bipartisan support. If SB 420 is signed into law, Oregon will join 39 other states in establishing a brain injury resource facilitation program, which will be housed within the Oregon Department of Human Services.

"My family and I know the challenges of caring for a loved one with a traumatic brain injury. In these difficult situations, anything that makes life even just a little bit easier will make a big difference," **said Senator Patterson (D - Salem), the bill's chief sponsor.** "I am so glad that the Senate is back in business with plenty of time to deliver this important relief for families like mine."

According to the Oregon Health Authority, <u>over 13,000 Oregonians sustained a traumatic brain injury</u> in just one year, resulting in profound difficulties not only for the survivors themselves but also for their friends and families who are often unaware of where to seek the necessary resources and assistance.

Oregon Senate Democrats' <u>2023 Oregon Works agenda</u> includes improving access to quality care for Oregonians.

SB 420 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 420 now moves to the House of Representatives for consideration.

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