



## OREGON SENATE DEMOCRATS

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Oregon State Legislature

### PRESS RELEASE

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### **Sen. Patterson Takes Action to Increase Transitional Housing in Salem**

*House Bill 4037 directs state agencies to consider resources, provide transitional housing*

SALEM – Today, the Senate unanimously approved House Bill 4037. This legislation requires the Oregon Department of Administrative Services to undertake reasonable efforts to lease underutilized property, owned by the Department, to the City of Salem for use as transitional housing accommodations.

“We’re taking immediate steps to reduce homelessness right here in Salem,” said Senator Deb Patterson (D-Salem), Co-Chief Sponsor of House Bill 4037, who carried the bill on the Senate floor. “Finding adequate locations for temporary shelters has proved to be a unique challenge. Without a doubt, this bill could help hundreds of people who are experiencing houselessness. More importantly, it would lay a foundation for individuals to get connected to more permanent supports.”

House Bill 4037 requires the Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to lease surplus, unused or underutilized state real property owned by the Department to the City of Salem for the city’s use as transitional housing accommodations. Leases cannot require the city to pay more than the actual costs of entering the lease agreement, set the initial lease term for longer than 18 months, or include use of improvements on the property except for parking lots. The measure also directs other state agencies to assist in making such properties available for lease.

House Bill 4037 now goes to the Governor for her signature.

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