



SENATE MAJORITY OFFICE

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Senate Bill Allows Oregonians to Sue Hotels and Vacation Rentals for Taking Videos and Photos in Private Spaces

Expands privacy rights that previously applied only to highly intimate images

SALEM, OR – Guests in Oregon hotels and short-term vacation rentals will have authority to sue innkeepers, landlords, and reservation services under a Senate bill passed today if these rental providers record still photos, videos, or audio of the guests in private spaces.

“This bill was prompted by real-life experiences of guests being videorecorded when they expected privacy,” said **Senator Anthony Broadman (D – Bend)**, who carried the bill on the Senate floor. “But nothing in the bill prohibits a hotel or short-term host from recording common areas such as lobbies, stairwells, or exterior exits. It would not be appropriate to position or direct cameras inside the private space someone rents, like a hotel room or a vacation condo.”

The legislation, SB 470, specifies that victims can claim compensatory damages and attorney’s fees when they file suit over photos or recordings. In current law, photos and videos taken or shared without consent are an invasion of privacy if nudity is involved. The bill passed today widens the definition to any images taken when a person reasonably expects privacy in their vacation rental or hotel room.

The vote on the Oregon Senate floor was 28 to 0. The measure goes next to the Oregon House of Representatives for consideration.

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