



## OREGON SENATE DEMOCRATS

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Oregon State Legislature

### PRESS RELEASE

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### **Senate Democrats Take Action on Coordinated Response to Reduce Homelessness**

*House Bill 4123 will provide grants to support a coordinated response in Benton, Coos, Deschutes, Lincoln, Polk, Tillamook and Umatilla Counties and the mid-Willamette Valley*

SALEM – Today, the Senate approved [House Bill 4123](#) on a vote of 24 to 1. This legislation appropriates \$8 million to the Department of Administrative Services to provide grants to local governments and nonprofit corporations that agree to create a coordinated homeless response system.

“As we know, homelessness is a pressing and critical issue, this bill provides local municipalities with the resources to tailor the management of this crisis to their specific needs,” said [Senator Akasha Lawrence Spence](#) (D-Portland), who carried House Bill 4123 on the Senate floor. “House Bill 4123 will help create a coordinated response with local governments around the state, with funding support from the Legislature, to get people into housing.”

“Working families and low wage earners, along with many fixed income older adults, have struggled through this pandemic,” said [Senator Deb Patterson](#) (D-Salem), Chair of the Senate Committee on Health Care. “We must ensure people don’t fall through the cracks at this fragile time as we return our community to health.”

HB 4123 directs the Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to provide grants to local government and nonprofit corporations to create a coordinated homeless response system. The bill appropriates \$8 million to DAS in the 2021-23 biennium to provide eight grants of \$1 million each to the following eight local governments and nonprofit corporations: Benton County, Coos County, Deschutes County, Lincoln County, the Mid-Columbia Community Action Council, Polk County, Tillamook County, and Umatilla County. Each recipient must use the grant money to hire staff, acquire technical assistance and building capacity, and pay for other expenses as needed.

House Bill 4123 now goes to the Governor for her signature.

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