



SENATE MAJORITY OFFICE

Oregon State Legislature
State Capitol
Salem, OR

NEWS RELEASE

February 15, 2010

CONTACT: Molly Woon (503) 986-1074
molly.woon@state.or.us

Job Applicant Fairness Act passes in Senate *SB 1045 will restrict job related credit checks, make it easier for Oregonians to get back to work*

SALEM – The Senate gave approval today to legislation that would eliminate unreasonable barriers to employment for Oregon’s jobseekers. SB 1045 will restrict job related credit checks, making it easier for qualified job applicants to get back to work.

“With massive and prolonged unemployment, thousands of Oregonians are struggling to find jobs and support their families,” said Senator Diane Rosenbaum, chair of the Senate Commerce and Workforce Development Committee. “Senate Bill 1045 will help Oregonians get back to work by allowing them to complete for jobs based on their qualifications, not their credit history.”

SB 1045 will limit employers' access to a job applicant's credit report with certain exceptions. The bill will preserve employers' right to check criminal records and all other job-related reference checks.

"Credit reports are notoriously inaccurate," said Senate Majority Leader Richard Devlin (D-Tualatin). "Unless it's directly relevant to a job, creating barriers to employment is unnecessary and not fair to Oregonians who are trying to get back on track."

SB 1045 now moves to the House for consideration.

###

For more information on the Senate Majority Caucus, please visit oregonsenatedemocrats.com