



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BOLI Secures Victory for Oregon's Children in 2024 Legislative Session

(Portland, OR) – In a resounding triumph for the future of Oregon's workforce, the Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) is pleased to announce that [House Bill 4004](#) successfully passed through both chambers of the Oregon Legislature and was signed by Governor Kotek this afternoon. This landmark legislation stands as Commissioner Christina Stephenson's singular policy proposal this session, reflecting BOLI's unwavering commitment to enhancing the lives of Oregonians, particularly its youth.

The bill, which sailed unanimously through the House and secured a decisive 24-to-6 vote in the Senate, grants BOLI the authority to pursue and retain penalties against employers found in violation of Oregon's child labor laws. It also raises the maximum penalty per violation from \$1,000 to \$10,000.

Commissioner Stephenson's steadfast leadership guided this critical initiative, underlining BOLI's mission to foster a workplace environment where every Oregonian, especially its children, can thrive. HB 4004 marks a significant departure from the status quo, rectifying a glaring oversight that impeded BOLI's ability to address child labor violations effectively. By eliminating a mandate to refund employers that violated child labor law, the bill grants BOLI the autonomy necessary to enforce labor laws rigorously and hold violators accountable.

As Oregon looks ahead to a brighter, more equitable future, BOLI remains resolute in its mission to champion the rights of workers and enhance the quality of life for all Oregonians. House Bill 4004 stands as a testament to Commissioner Stephenson's unwavering dedication and BOLI's relentless pursuit of progress.

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Led by Labor Commissioner Christina Stephenson, the Bureau of Labor and Industries protects workers' rights through enforcement of state labor laws, ensures access to housing and public accommodations free from discrimination for all Oregonians, and promotes the development of a highly skilled workforce through registered apprenticeship programs.

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