



TINA KOTEK
GOVERNOR

August 4, 2023

The Honorable Rob Wagner
President of the Senate
S-201 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

The Honorable Dan Rayfield
Speaker of the House
H-269 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Dear President Wagner and Speaker Rayfield,

Today, I am signing House Bill 2010, which authorizes critically important water quantity and quality work.

In 2021 and 2023, the Legislature passed significant water policy and budget allocations in recognition of the need to take actions to secure our water future in Oregon. Implementing these legislative accomplishments has the potential to make a tangible difference in the way both consumptive and instream water needs are managed. To that end, I am focused on making sure the implementing agencies are poised to be successful.

House Bill 2010 specifically assigns a number of program expectations to the Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD), which are additive to other initiatives passed in both the 2021 and 2023 legislative sessions. This, along with the fact that the budgetary resources provided by House Bill 2010 are less than those identified as necessary by OWRD when the bill was being considered, raises concern that expectations for the timing of program implementation may not be achievable.

The water management challenges Oregon faces are great, and my administration will work with OWRD to make every effort to accomplish timely implementation of work directed by House Bill 2010. That said, I will be asking the agency to work closely with my staff and the chairs of relevant legislative committees to inventory and prioritize implementation of the full suite of policy initiatives currently pending from recent legislation. To the extent resource gaps exist that will hinder effective implementation of prioritized work to manage Oregon's water challenges, I will ask that we come together to take appropriate steps to help OWRD succeed in delivering its mission.

In addition, given the aggregation of "minimal fiscal" impacts associated with collaborating and consulting on various projects and initiatives under the bill, the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) sought but was not fully provided with its needed staffing resources. Without those resources, DEQ anticipates impacts to certain areas of core agency work.

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Sections 5 (well abandonment consultation) and 28 (aquifer storage and recovery grant program) will draw from existing core agency work, as DEQ currently only has one position who performs this type of work. DEQ may experience delays or impacts to permitting evaluations where there is a groundwater nexus or surface water/groundwater interface, groundwater management area-related evaluations, or land application and water reuse evaluations.

Additionally, Sections 8 (Lake Abert and the Chewaucan River Watershed work consultation) and 10 (Integrated Water Resources Strategy) present implementation challenges. DEQ has two Integrated Water Resources Strategy positions covering the entire state, reduced from three in recent biennia. DEQ was authorized two place-based planning positions through House Bill 2010 whose skill set would be transferrable to IWRS development and implementation and who may play a supporting role in the Oregon Consensus process for the Lake Abert and Chewaucan watershed -- but only if DEQ is permitted to redistribute work between the two existing IWRS positions and the two new place-based planning positions. DEQ additionally proposed, but was not authorized, a 0.75 FTE for operations and policy analysis to support this package of new work directed under the bill.

It is my expectation that DEQ will work with the Legislature in the interim and future sessions to ensure that core functions are adequately resourced.

Finally, the bill provides pass-through funding to the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) for grants to soil and water conservation districts. However, the bill also requires that these grants are provided within 60 days of the effective date of the bill. Given the timing needed for legal sufficiency review for new contracts, this 60-day timeline is difficult to meet. DAS will work as quickly as possible to get the grants executed and funding distributed.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Governor Tina Kotek

TK:smg

CC: Representative Ken Helm
Representative Mark Owens
Senator Elizabeth Steiner
Representative Tawna Sanchez
Director Doug Woodcock, Oregon Water Resources Department
Director Leah Feldon, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality



TINA KOTEK
GOVERNOR

August 4, 2023

Honorable LaVonne Griffin-Valade
Secretary of State
900 Court Street NE, Suite 136
Salem, OR 97301

Re: House Bill 2079

Dear Secretary Griffin-Valade:

Pursuant to Article V, sections 15b(1) and (3), of the Oregon Constitution, I am returning Enrolled House Bill 2079 unsigned and disapproved.

HB 2079 requires the Legislative Revenue Officer (LRO) to study potentially implementing a tax credit and direct grant program to encourage preservation of historic property. I believe studies such as this can and should be done without statutory direction.

Sincerely,

Governor Tina Kotek

TK:smg



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The Honorable Rob Wagner
President of the Senate
S-201 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

The Honorable Dan Rayfield
Speaker of the House
H-269 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Re: House Bill 2426

Dear President Wagner and Speaker Rayfield,

Today, I am signing House Bill 2426. I write to express concerns regarding enforcement of the new law.

House Bill 2426 passed with bipartisan support and is an issue of great interest across the state. My office received more than 5,000 comments from Oregonians about the bill since its passage, with a narrow majority of comments supporting my signature.

While the legislative record and public discourse highlighted several merits of the bill, I have concerns about potential unintended negative consequences for individuals who want or need assistance from an attendant. Top of mind are persons with disabilities and senior citizens who may need to remain in their vehicles. House Bill 2426 provided complaint-based enforcement, which puts the onus on impacted individuals to report violations of the new law. Once a complaint is made to the Oregon State Fire Marshal, the enforcement process is unclear. Widespread violation of the service attendant provision would undermine the intent of the law, which is to provide Oregonians with options at the gas pump.

I encourage legislators and stakeholders to address this concern and explore strengthening the complaint and enforcement process in the 2024 Session.

Sincerely,

Governor Tina Kotek

cc: Representative Shelly Boshart Davis
Representative Julie Fahey
Senator Daniel Bonham
Senator Janeen Sollman



TINA KOTEK
GOVERNOR

August 4, 2023

Honorable LaVonne Griffin-Valade
Secretary of State
900 Court Street NE, Suite 136
Salem, OR 97301

Re: House Bill 2763

Dear Secretary Griffin-Valade:

Pursuant to Article V, sections 15b(1) and (3), of the Oregon Constitution, I am returning Enrolled House Bill 2763 unsigned and disapproved.

HB 2763 creates the State Public Bank Task Force to study and make recommendations regarding the establishment of a state public bank. While I support exploring the creation of a state bank, this bill has several logistical challenges, including directing the Oregon Business Development Department (OBDD), which already manages over 80 programs, to manage a new task force, establish an RFP process, and finalize a substantive report on an abbreviated timeline.

Sincerely,

Governor Tina Kotek

TK:smg



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The Honorable Rob Wagner
President of the Senate
S-201 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

The Honorable Dan Rayfield
Speaker of the House
H-269 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Re: House Bill 2772

Dear President Wagner and Speaker Rayfield,

Today, I am signing House Bill 2772, which creates the new crimes of Domestic Terrorism in the First and Second Degrees. This new law addresses shortfalls in Oregon's criminal laws regarding intentional damage or destruction of critical infrastructure and other harm targeted at more than fifty people.

I have received feedback from Oregonians about the potential for unintended consequences from House Bill 2772. These concerns include use of the bill to target political protestors, collateral consequences from the designation of "domestic terrorist" for those convicted of the new crimes, and the possibility of disparate impacts on communities of color. The bill's proponents attempted to address these concerns by narrowing the class of people who can be prosecuted to those who intend to cause "widespread" harm to others or "widespread" damage to critical infrastructure, among other safeguards. I greatly appreciate this dialogue and response.

I have directed the Criminal Justice Commission to monitor the use of the new crimes created in House Bill 2772—from arrest through conviction—and to report back to my office. This should provide a data-informed means to evaluate concerns. My office has had productive conversations with the bill's proponents, and I appreciate their commitment to pursuing amendments at a future legislative session if necessary.

We must work together to ensure that Oregon's criminal justice system delivers on its promises of public safety, fairness, and transparency.

Sincerely,

Governor Tina Kotek

TK:smg

cc: Representative Paul Evans
Senator Floyd Prozanski
Representative Jason Kropf
Ken Sanchagrin, Executive Director, Criminal Justice Commission



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The Honorable Rob Wagner
President of the Senate
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The Honorable Dan Rayfield
Speaker of the House
H-269 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Re: House Bill 3440

Dear President Wagner and Speaker Rayfield,

House Bill 3440 will become law without my signature.

House Bill 3440 amends ORS 275.275 regarding the distribution of proceeds from tax foreclosure sales. However, on May 25, 2023, the United States Supreme Court determined that a Minnesota law similar to ORS 275.275 is unconstitutional.

In *Tyler v Hennepin County*, the Court held that a governmental entity's failure to return proceeds from a tax foreclosure sale effected an unlawful taking of property in violation of the Fifth Amendment. Thus, House Bill 3440 amends a statute, ORS 275.275, that is subject to a constitutional challenge. Nothing in House Bill 3440 resolves the constitutional infirmity already in law in ORS 275.275.

I recommend that the Legislature take up this constitutional issue in a future session.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Governor Tina Kotek

TK:smg

cc: Representative Emerson Levy
Representative Tom Andersen
Senator Floyd Prozanski
Representative Jason Kropf

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The Honorable Rob Wagner
President of the Senate
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Speaker of the House
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Salem, OR 97301

Re: House Bill 3561

Dear President Wagner and Speaker Rayfield,

Today, I am signing House Bill 3561. I write this letter to address concerns regarding the implementation of the law.

The law furthers a goal that I applaud, which is to expand scholarship support to aspiring early childhood professionals who have a specialized focus on behavioral health. Specifically, House Bill 3561 made technical changes to allow the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) to institute a “last dollar award” methodology for scholarships, which ensures that any gaps left after applying a student’s other scholarships are filled. The bill also expanded the definition of “early childhood care and education” to include behavioral health professionals. However, the legislature expanded eligibility for scholarship support without allocating any funding. This is the second biennium that the legislature has declined to fund the program, which I funded in my recommended budget.

The lack of funding means the law exists in concept only and cannot be implemented to contribute to the intended goal to create more specialized early learning professionals. I am hopeful that this policy can be implemented in future biennia with the necessary scholarship resources.

Sincerely,

Governor Tina Kotek

TK:smg

cc: Senator Elizabeth Steiner, Co-chair Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Representative Tawna Sanchez, Co-chair Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Michael Dembrow, Chair, Senate Committee on Education
Representative Courtney Neron, Chair, House Committee on Education
Ben Cannon, Executive Director, Higher Education Coordinating Commission

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The Honorable Rob Wagner
President of the Senate
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The Honorable Dan Rayfield
Speaker of the House
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Salem, OR 97301

Re: ODHS Office of Resilience and Emergency Management

Dear President Wagner and Speaker Rayfield,

Today, I am signing House Bill 5026, the budget bill for the Department of Human Services (ODHS). I write this letter to affirm my commitment to the work of the department and share my concerns on unfunded agency operations.

ODHS has taken an increasingly prominent and important role in responding to disasters, such as wildfire response efforts. I believe it is a mistake not to fund 48 positions for the Office of Resiliency and Emergency Management (OREM). OREM provides critical supports to disaster survivors, including emergency feeding, sheltering, and case management services. As of today, the OREM team is actively supporting multiple fire responses, including the Golden Fire in Lake County, where OREM deployed several of their mobile satellite systems at the local hospital and 9-1-1 center to ensure continuation of life-sustaining operations after the sole fiber-optic cable line was severed by the fire. In addition, early estimates indicate that 48 homes have been destroyed in the Golden Fire. OREM staff have been deployed to support sheltering coordination and help people to begin their recovery.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, it became apparent that ODHS needed to develop its capacity to perform statutorily directed short-term and long-term emergency response functions, especially for our rural communities. These responses help build social resilience and include evacuation support, shelter, feeding, hydration, reunification, recovery, and transition. OREM also provides timely and crucial information to programs to ensure caseworkers know who is in a potential disaster or evacuation zone. Disaster case management is crucial to recovery, ensuring those most vulnerable are connected to services that promote a return to normalcy as quickly as possible. This work is staff and resource intensive.

Over the last few years, OREM has:

- Provided shelter and meals to nearly 4,500 survivors of the Labor Day 2020 wildfires;
- Served 3,928 families through its disaster case management program, including 188 households still in case management;

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- Delivered 370 pieces of equipment in seven months to create cleaner air spaces during wildfires to 88 rural and urban locations throughout the state;
- Delivered pallets of drinking water to Amity recently when the municipal water system failed; and
- Deployed 10 staff to Morrow and Umatilla Counties in the past weeks to facilitate well water testing to detect dangerous nitrate level and provide safe drinking water.

County governments invest in human services departments and these departments are augmented by OREM, when local human services support systems are overwhelmed by an increasingly complex disaster environment. Over and over again, local governments seek OREM's support for mass care and shelter and to help them prepare for significant human services support during emergencies. Twenty-eight local governments, emergency managers, and community-based organizations submitted letters of support for OREM's staffing in this last session. They said that OREM is staffed with extremely knowledgeable and professional people who are not afraid to get in and get their hands dirty to help the people affected by emergencies.

The legislature provided clear intent and actions for OREM in a different bill, House Bill 3409, which directs OREM to provide assistance to counties in developing community resilience hubs to support local human service programs. And elsewhere, in House Bill 5026, the legislature provided \$4 million for water distribution, noting that OREM may coordinate with the Oregon Department of Emergency Management on goals for water delivery. Both of these provisions signal the clear intent by the legislature that the state is to support local communities efforts for shelter, water, food, and social support services during emergencies. However, the underlying position and funding infrastructure to ensure OREM can perform these functions was not funded by the legislature in House Bill 5026.

Discontinuing needed funding for OREM has contributed to instability in the ODHS Central Services budget. The Central Services budget decreased significantly due to the transfer of positions to the Oregon Eligibility Program (OEP) and the phase-out of one-time funding related to wildfires. The Department expects a budget shortfall in the Central Services appropriation without additional funding support in the 2024 session. This shortfall will occur whether or not additional emergencies occur over the course of the next six months.

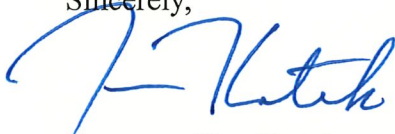
As such, I have directed the Department to develop plans to pursue position authority and funding to help stabilize Central Services. I have asked them to continue discussions with Joint Human Services sub-chairs and Ways and Means co-chairs this fall to review ODHS programs

Honorable Rob Wagner
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and Central Office functions to build common understanding of the vision, mission, functions being performed, and related funding needed to support operations.

I appreciate the ongoing legislative and executive partnership to ensure agencies are able to perform essential services for Oregonians. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tina Kotek". The signature is stylized and fluid.

Governor Tina Kotek

TK:smg

cc: Senator Elizabeth Steiner, Co-chair Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Representative Tawna Sanchez, Co-chair Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Winsvey Campos, Co-chair, Human Services Subcommittee
Representative Andrea Valderrama, Co-chair Human Services Subcommittee
Senator James Manning Jr, Chair, Senate Committee on Veterans, Emergency
Management, Federal and World Affairs
Representative Davis Grayber, Chair, House Committee on Emergency Management,
General Government, and Veterans
Fairborz Pakseresht, Director, Oregon Department of Human Services



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The Honorable Rob Wagner
President of the Senate
S-201 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

The Honorable Dan Rayfield
Speaker of the House
H-269 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Senate Bill 5535 (Oregon Racing Commission budget)

Dear President Wagner and Speaker Rayfield,

Senate Bill 5535 will become law without my signature.

Senate Bill 1504 (2022) prohibited the acceptance of wagers or the provision of gambling services in Oregon in connection with greyhound racing, regardless of the state or country in which the race takes place. I believe in the intent of this law and will direct the Oregon Racing Commission to act within its available authority to prohibit wagering on greyhound races, regardless of where they take place.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Governor Tina Kotek



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GOVERNOR

August 4, 2023

The Honorable Rob Wagner
President of the Senate
S-201 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

The Honorable Dan Rayfield
Speaker of the House
H-269 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Senate Bill 80

Dear President Wagner and Speaker Rayfield,

Today, I am signing Senate Bill 80 and I would like to thank you for your effort in continuing to advance fire protection in Oregon. Senate Bill 80 represented this year's omnibus bill on wildfire, and I offer the following for your consideration.

This new law makes several adjustments to the statewide wildfire hazard map that will help with the development and delivery of the next mapping iteration. Allowing more time to work with counties and engage Oregonians is a critical adjustment. The map's purpose, name, and land designations have all changed to better represent the purpose of the map. Notification to landowners will be in collaboration with the legislatively appointed Wildfire Programs Advisory Council, and the appeals process was made less complex for landowners. Even with these improvements, many Oregonians will continue to have concerns about the map as it represents a regulatory tool with a statewide approach to protecting communities from wildfire. To help mitigate some of these concerns, we will defer to a public education campaign on the benefits of defensible space and strategically consider the timing of defensible space enforcement.

Senate Bill 80 was the vehicle utilized to fund the Oregon State Fire Marshal's wildfire community risk reduction program at \$3 million. Last biennium, the Legislature invested \$32 million for this purpose in OSFM. A more durable and consistent funding strategy is necessary for Oregon to help protect our communities from wildfire.

Senate Bill 80 also created the Landscape Resiliency Fund and adjusted the existing Community Risk Reduction fund to allow for philanthropic donations for these purposes of reducing wildfire risk. The executive branch will continue to work towards attracting philanthropic dollars for this purpose.

Additionally, Senate Bill 80 expanded the granting opportunities to non-profits and faith-based organizations to deliver the public clean air services more efficiently during wildfire events. However, this program within the Oregon Department of Human Services was not funded in this bill or the agency budget bill House Bill 5026. I speak to this in detail, in my letter regarding House Bill 5026.

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Honorable Dan Rayfield
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Finally, Senate Bill 80 expanded the prescribed fire program in the Oregon Department of Forestry to include a prescribed fire liability pilot program. Liability issues have been identified as a limitation to meeting prescribed fire goals, and the executive branch looks forward to testing this concept.

The July 2023 wildfire programs director's report captures a comprehensive look at how we have progressed wildfire programs through targeted investments in Oregon. I would be happy to discuss the above details in Senate Bill 80 and more broadly, the bi-monthly wildfire programs director's report as we prepare for wildfire in Oregon's future.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Governor Tina Kotek

CC: Senator Elizabeth Steiner, Co-chair Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Representative Tawna Sanchez, Co-chair Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Golden, Chair, Committee on Natural Resources
Representative Marsh, Chair, Climate, Energy, and Environment
Fairborz Pakseresht, Director, Oregon Department of Human Services
Cal Makumoto, Oregon Department of Forestry
Mariana Ruiz-Temple, Department of the State Fire Marshal



TINA KOTEK
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August 4, 2023

The Honorable Rob Wagner
President of the Senate
S-201 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

The Honorable Dan Rayfield
Speaker of the House
H-269 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Senate Bill 488

Dear President Wagner and Speaker Rayfield,

Today, I am signing Senate Bill 488, which creates a standalone continuous monitoring obligation on Oregon's only municipal solid waste incinerator, Covanta Marion.

I recognize communities across Oregon have questions and concerns about what's in their air. To address concerns and ensure that communities are protected, the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has Cleaner Air Oregon to evaluate and regulate the public health risks associated with emissions from stationary sources. Currently, DEQ is actively conducting the risk assessment process for the Covanta Marion facility. DEQ has already required and overseen a variety of onsite monitoring activities to better understand the facility's emissions profile.

Senate Bill 488 established a separate monitoring requirement for the facility that diverges from current agency work. Notably, DEQ's Title V Air Quality Permitting program, under which municipal solid waste incinerators are regulated, is under-staffed. I have directed my staff to work with DEQ to rebuild the Title V program's staffing and operations, but special projects will impact DEQ's ability to deliver on core work and my expectations of operational excellence in state agencies. This is a concern.

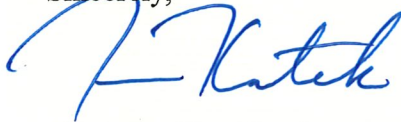
Senate Bill 488 also established limits on the acceptance of certain infectious wastes in statute. Existing law identifies incineration as the preferred method of disposal of certain infectious wastes. It is unclear how capping incineration in Oregon at 18,000 tons of waste per year without context may impact waste management as the state grows, or how it may impact safe disposal of infectious wastes during public health events. Additionally, I understand that depending on DEQ's Cleaner Air Oregon risk assessment for the facility, the annual cap may not be a meaningful condition of operation.

Honorable Rob Wagner
Honorable Dan Rayfield
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Moving forward, it is my goal that DEQ has a well-resourced air quality monitoring program so that it can be nimble and responsive as issues arise. My office would welcome a conversation on additional action by the legislature in the 2024 Session to provide ongoing monitoring resources to ensure DEQ completes its key work in all communities.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Governor Tina Kotek

TK:smg

cc: Senator Deb Patterson
Senator James I Manning
Senator Aaron Woods
Senator Sollman
Representative Neron
Representative Tom Andersen
Representative Marsh
Leah Feldon, Director, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality



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August 4, 2023

The Honorable Rob Wagner
President of the Senate
S-201 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

The Honorable Dan Rayfield
Speaker of the House
H-269 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Senate Bill 1089

Dear President Wagner and Speaker Rayfield,

Today, I am signing Senate Bill 1089. I write to affirm my commitment to health care access and share my feedback on the contents of the bill and its implementation.

The Oregon Health Plan covers 1 in 4 Oregonians and has provided greater support in recent years through groundbreaking policies like Cover All Kids, Cover All People, and enhanced coverage of reproductive health and gender affirming care. I believe these programs set Oregon apart and help ensure that Oregonians can have affordable care with culturally appropriate providers in every corner of the state, something I am deeply committed to achieving and maintaining. I understand the continuous and challenging workload required of agencies to implement, resource, and manage these programs after they are penned into law. I also know the goal of this work: a healthier Oregon.

I have been clear that as we emerge from the international pandemic that thrust our communities, businesses, schools, and public institutions into crisis, we must approach new programs with great scrutiny and the highest degree of accountability. I believe that this moment calls for mission-focused discipline and a renewed commitment to making sure that state government is delivering results for Oregonians.

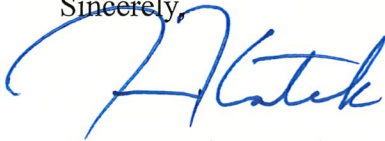
While we share the intent of Senate Bill 1089, I have implementation concerns following a thorough review process. This session the legislature invested in implementing the Basic Health Plan, 1115 Medicaid Waiver, Essential Health Care Trust expansion, and Healthier Oregon coverage expansions. All of these contribute to the goal of increased access to quality health care at lower costs based on our ability to leverage Medicaid infrastructure. As Senate Bill 1089 advances a new program that will require significant financial investments in future years, I call upon the sponsors of the bill and legislative leadership to provide clearer direction to the Governance Board on their charge when you reconvene in February.

Honorable Rob Wagner
Honorable Dan Rayfield
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The legislative record lacks a distinction between the work of the Task Force on Universal Health Care assembled through Senate Bill 770 (2019) and the new Universal Health Plan Governance Board, as well as the charge of each body. This presents a potential risk of duplicative efforts and inefficient spending of \$2 million in taxpayer funding. At the very same time, given the scope of this pending programmatic change, it is equally likely that \$2 million underestimates the resources required to fulfill the intent of the bill.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "T. Kotek", written over the word "Sincerely,".

Governor Tina Kotek

cc: Representative Rob Nosse
Senator Deb Patterson
Senator Elizabeth Steiner
Senator James Manning Jr.



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August 4, 2023

The Honorable Rob Wagner
President of the Senate
S-201 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

The Honorable Dan Rayfield
Speaker of the House
H-269 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Senate Bill 1095 – Veto of Emergency Clause

Dear President Wagner and Speaker Rayfield,

Senate Bill 1095 increases membership on the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission (OLCC), Oregon Growth Board, and Early Learning Council to accommodate Oregon's new 6th Congressional District. These changes are needed as a matter of good governance. Now that Oregon has six congressional districts, boards and commissions that require membership from each congressional district must include the 6th District.

However, Senate Bill 1095 includes an emergency clause requiring the act to take effect on its passage. This timing would pose a problem. The Executive Branch requires sufficient time to thoughtfully recruit and vet potential appointees and for them to go through the Senate confirmation process. To address that issue, I have exercised my authority under Article V, section 15a, of the Oregon Constitution to veto the emergency clause in Senate Bill 1095. The bill will become effective on January 1, 2024.

Sincerely,

Governor Tina Kotek

TK:smg

cc: Senator Kate Lieber, Chair, Senate Rules Committee
Senator Tim Knopp, Vice-Chair, Senate Rules Committee



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GOVERNOR

August 4, 2023

Honorable LaVonne Griffin-Valade
Secretary of State
900 Court Street NE, Suite 136
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Senate Bill 1095

Dear Secretary Griffin-Valade:

Pursuant to Article V, section 15a, of the Oregon Constitution, I am vetoing the emergency clause in Senate Bill 1095.

SB 1095 adjusts membership of certain boards and commissions whose governing body membership is based on congressional districts now that Oregon has a sixth congressional district. Removing the emergency clause will allow for the additional time needed to recruit and vet additional members to the impacted boards and commissions.

Sincerely,

Governor Tina Kotek

TK:smg



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August 4, 2023

Honorable LaVonne Griffin-Valade
Secretary of State
900 Court Street NE, Suite 136
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Senate Bill 5506

Dear Secretary Griffin-Valade:

Pursuant to Article V, section 15a, of the Oregon Constitution, I am exercising the line-item veto authority as to the following appropriations in Senate Bill 5506:

- **SB 5506, Section 32:** \$100,000 to the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) for a study on the advantages and disadvantages of decriminalizing prostitution. While there is value to this study, particularly as it relates to understanding disproportionate impacts on communities of color, I believe it can and should be privately funded.
- **SB 5506, Section 74:** \$250,000 to the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) for distribution to Cherriots to collaborate with state agencies and other entities to study the feasibility of developing a rail streetcar system in the City of Salem. I do not believe this study is a top priority for the state at this time.
- **SB 5506, Section 300:** \$500,000 to the Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) School of Public Health to perform a public health study on the effects of current laws and policies on people in the sex trade in the state of Oregon. While there is value to this study, particularly as it relates to understanding disproportionate impacts on communities of color, I believe it can and should be privately funded.
- **SB 5506, Section 312:** \$1 million to the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) for distribution to the Willamette Career Academy to fund regional career and technical education programs provided by the Willamette Career Academy. While I support career and technical education programs, the funding should be distributed through a local school district or education service district.

Sincerely,

Governor Tina Kotek

TK:smg