



TINA KOTEK  
GOVERNOR

June 26, 2025

The Honorable Julie Fahey  
Speaker of the House  
H-271 State Capitol  
Salem, OR 97301

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

RE: House Bill 3569

Dear President Wagner and Speaker Fahey:

Providing exceptional service to Oregonians has been a top priority since I took office. Improving how state agencies interact with and serve Oregonians increases transparency and accountability. One of the core processes that supports our work is rulemaking.

While I am signing HB 3569 into law, I would like to be clear about implementation. Rulemaking by agencies is a critical function of the Executive Branch, and I must make sure that our agency rulemaking processes across the enterprise are fair, transparent, efficient, and respectful of the perspectives different interested parties bring to the table when advising on creating rules for legislation signed into law. Without appropriate implementation, we risk creating even more complex, less efficient rulemaking processes. My office will be delivering the expectations outlined below to state agencies to be responsive to HB 3569.

First, rulemakings must not be held up due to Rules Advisory Committee (RAC) scheduling challenges. It must remain the responsibility of the relevant agency to set the necessary timeline to implement rules, and the agency should at that time notify the Chief Sponsor of the RAC schedule. If the designated Chief Sponsor of the legislation cannot attend meetings due to the schedule of the RAC, the RAC must continue. I do not expect agencies to accept proxies for chief sponsors. I also expect the Legislature to proactively designate the Chief Sponsor so there is no confusion about the designee when enrolled legislation is a committee bill. Further, the Executive Branch should only consider active legislators to be eligible for the designation of Chief Sponsor.

When convening a RAC, the agency should be clear that the committee will only address the final statute as signed into law. RACs are often charged with interpreting legislative intent, and while it is sometimes useful to have input from the Chief Sponsor of a bill, the RAC and agency rulemaking team should always prioritize what the final language of the bill says over any other conflicting advocacy. If the Chief Sponsor is advocating for rule language that differs from the language of the bill, the agency should guide a process which always defaults to the language in the law.

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I welcome the continued dialogue with the Legislative Branch on improving our state rulemaking process and want to be clear that our agencies continue to work on delivering what Oregonians deserve – a process that is clear, predictable, and inclusive of those with a clear interest in the implementation of the law.

Sincerely,



Governor Tina Kotek

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