

WEEKLY CAPITOL ACTIVITY REPORT

2022 Oregon State Legislature

Week ending February 18, 2022

Capitol Climate

Despite being one of the slower weeks during a short session, due to the February 14th deadline for bills to have had a work session, it wasn't without some interesting action. But, first the procedural details.

Since the beginning of the session, a total of **271 measures/bills have been introduced**. After the first session deadline, **217 of those measures are still alive**.

80% of the total number of bills introduced are still under consideration. So far, only 54 measures have died.

Of the dead bills, 20 were Senate bills and 34 were House bills. To read through the list of Senate measures that died, [click here](#). To read through the House measures that died, [click here](#).

A number of big topics for this session come with impacts to Oregon's budget, and therefore must be evaluated by the Joint Committee on Ways and Means (AKA the budget committee) before heading to the House or Senate floors for a vote. Chamber deadlines for public hearings and work sessions do not apply to the budget committee.

So far, the Senate has referred 38 bills to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means. The House has referred 47 bills to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.

The most significant pieces are related to workforce, the Governor's \$200 million request for "Future Ready Oregon" (SB 1545) and a \$100 million childcare investment (HB 4005).

Farmworker overtime (HB 4002) remains one of the most contentious pieces of legislation. Proposals to move the threshold to 50 hours (from 40) are under negotiation, however, opponents of the bill are in a tight spot. If the legislature doesn't pass a bill the Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI), headed by former Representative (and current candidate for CD4) Val Hoyle, could address the issue through rule-making *and potentially draft something opponents dislike far more than HB 4002*.

HB 4002 has had multiple public hearings, a rally was held by supporters on Tuesday this week, and House Republican leadership spent time meeting with House Speaker Rayfield during Tuesday's floor session. House Republicans are not allowing rules suspension, which causes all bills to be read in full prior to a vote, and slows down the ability to move the large number of bills before them. It's a familiar strategy to slow things down and pull people to the negotiating table.

Committee activity on relevant bills this week:

House Committee on Health Care

2/13/2022 Work session on [HB 4039](#): Modify the financial requirements for coordinated care organization expenditures on social determinants of health and health equity and establish limits on the the amount that the Oregon Health Authority could require organizations spend. *In this work session, the bill was moved without recommendation as to passage and referred to rules and then ways and means by prior reference.*

2/14/2022 Work session on [HB 4034 A](#): Updates and clarifies a number of laws, including expressly allowing implementation of the Reproductive Health Equity Act and laws related to deliver of health care during the COVID-19 pandemic. *In this work session, the -3 was adopted and the bill was moved to the floor with a do pass recommendation and referred to ways and means.*

2/14/2022 Work session on [HB 4035 A](#): Requires the Oregon Health Authority to develop plans for conducting Medicaid redeterminations and establish a bridge program to provide coverage to individuals who churn out of Medicaid eligibility due to income fluctuations. *In this work session, the -1 was adopted and the bill was moved to the floor with a do pass recommendation and then referred to rules.*

2/14/2022 Work session on [HB 4132 A](#): Requires the Department of Consumer and Business Services to meet monthly with specified health care providers to discuss providers' concerns regarding health insurer practices and require the Secretary of State to conduct audit of practices and drug pricing mechanics of pharmacy benefit managers that contract with state agencies. *In this work session, the -4 amendment was adopted and the bill was moved to the floor, as amended, with a do pass recommendation and then referred to ways and means by prior reference.*

2/14/2022 Work session on [HB 4052 A](#): Requires Oregon Health Authority to administer a pilot program to provide grants to establish culturally and linguistically specific mobile health units to serve priority populations. The measure also requires OHA and the Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office to report to the legislature on recommendations for funding programs to address health inequities experienced by Black and indigenous communities, people of color, and members of tribes; requires OHA to administer a pilot program to provide grants to establish culturally and linguistically specific mobile health units to serve priority populations. *In this work session, the -1 was adopted and the bill was moved to the floor as amended with a do pass, and referred to ways and means by prior reference. Reps Hayden, Alonso Leon, Prusak, and Salinas all voiced their support of the bill.*

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This Week and the Week Ahead

2/14/2022 Work session on [HB 4083 A](#): Implements the Universal Access to Primary Care Work Group's recommendations for increasing access to, and affordability of, comprehensive primary care by requiring cost free coverage of annual primary care visits and prohibiting imposition of coverage requirements that restrict access to primary care. *In this work session, both the -2 and -3 amendments were adopted. The bill was moved, as amended, to the floor with a do pass recommendation and a referral to joint ways and means. Both Rep Prusak and Rep Noble spoke in full support of the bill.*

House Committee on Business and Labor

2/14/2022 Work session on [HB 4002 A](#): Establishes maximum hour and overtime wage requirements for Oregon agricultural workers and uses a refundable tax credit to offset a percentage of the additional cost of overtime pay for agricultural employers. Maximum hours are phased in over five years starting at 55 hours in 2023 and reducing to 40 hours by 2027. The refundable tax credit for a portion of the additional cost of overtime is available for overtime wages paid through 2028 and is more generous for agriculture employers with the equivalent of 25 or less full-time employees. *In this work session, the -5 was adopted and the bill was moved, as amended, with a do pass recommendation to revenue, by prior reference.*

Senate Committee On Human Services, Mental Health and Recovery

2/17/2022 Public hearing and work session on [HB 4150](#): Requires Health Information Technology Oversight Council to convene one or more groups of stakeholders and experts to explore options to accelerate, support and improve secure, statewide community information exchanges. *In this public hearing and work session, Rep Dexter and Rep Williams testified in support of the bill, as well as 3 community members. Sen Lieber expressed support for the bill. Sen Kennemer had questions about funding of the bill, and appeared pleased with the answer. Motion to pass 4150 to the floor with a due pass recommendation passed, carried by Sen Sollman.*

House Committee on Rules

2/17/2022 Public Hearing on [HB 4035 A](#): Requires the Oregon Health Authority to develop plans for conducting Medicaid redeterminations and establish a bridge program to provide coverage to individuals who churn out of Medicaid eligibility due to income fluctuations. *In this public hearing, OHA provided a presentation on the bill's approach to redetermination. Five representatives from various stakeholder groups testified with their input on the bill.*

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This Week and the Week Ahead

Committee activity on relevant bills next week:

House Committee on Health Care

2/21/2022 Public hearing and 2/23/2022 work session on [SB 1555](#): Specifies reimbursement that must be paid by insurers covering universal newborn nurse home visiting services.