

*from the desk of
Senator Sara Heller
SD 8*



SEIU URGES SUPPORT FOR HB 4058A

The janitorial industry employees 24,800 janitors in Oregon, mostly women who clean office buildings alone at night in isolated areas. These working conditions make them targets to predatory behavior by the same people who supervise them.

Many of these janitors are not hired by building owners and property managers directly, but by janitorial subcontractors. Even where legal protections exist, these industries are especially vulnerable to fly-by-night contractors and subcontractors who can dissolve the business rather than be held accountable for wrongdoing in the workplace.

Last session, the Legislature took appropriate action with HB 3279 to address serious problems in Oregon's janitorial industry, including sexual harassment and assault, wage theft, unpaid employer taxes, and workplace safety and health problems.

HB 4058A will make need adjustments to ensure the intent of this important legislation can be implemented.

While most of the rules recently finalized by BOLI are appropriate, some modifications are needed to ensure the registration of property service contractors and job site sexual harassment and assault prevention training for employees and managers. These modifications are agreed upon by advocates and stakeholders and come to you in HB 4058A.

This bill is critical to protecting vulnerable workers from sexual harassment and assault. **We urge a "YES" vote on HB 4058A.**