

HB 4037 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Hoy

House Committee On Housing**Action Date:** 02/14/22**Action:** Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)**Vote:** 11-0-0-0**Yeas:** 11 - Campos, Fahey, Hieb, Hoy, Marsh, Meek, Morgan, Neron, Valderrama, Weber, Zika**Fiscal:** Has minimal fiscal impact**Revenue:** No revenue impact**Prepared By:** Claire Adamsick, LPRO Analyst**Meeting Dates:** 2/9, 2/14**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Requires Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to use reasonable efforts to lease to the City of Salem certain surplus, unused, or underutilized property, owned by the Department and located within the City of Salem, for the city's use as transitional housing accommodations, subject to certain terms. Requires state agencies to assist DAS in making such properties available for lease. Sunsets January 2, 2026. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Growing need for temporary housing for homeless individuals in Salem
- Microshelters' ability to provide safe housing, hygiene, community building, and access to social services
- Removal of language specifying certain properties be made available for lease; focus on underutilized properties owned by DAS
- Opportunity for public input when a property has been identified for use as transitional housing
- Use of feasibility data to assess properties in Salem available for use
- Amendment to address various state agency concerns

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Clarifies state real property considered for lease must be owned by the Department of Administrative Services (DAS). Removes list of specific state properties and parking lots which must be considered available for lease. Directs DAS to consider underutilized portions of property owned by the Department within the City of Salem. Removes language prohibiting the Oregon Department of Transportation from disposing of or entering into a lease agreement of any term for real property without receiving confirmation from DAS that property is not needed for transitional housing.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon's rate of unsheltered homeless individuals is one of the highest in the United States. A 2019 Urban Institute report found that 24 percent of homeless individuals in Oregon, approximately 10,142, were unsheltered. According to Oregon Housing and Community Services, the number of unsheltered homeless individuals has increased by 37 percent since 2015, and the Department's 2019 Statewide Shelter Study calculated a shortfall of 5,800 emergency shelter beds for individuals and families. The 2019 Point-in-Time Count for Mid-Willamette Valley estimated at least 1,151 homeless individuals in Marion and Polk Counties, with at least 352 unsheltered.

Oregon law allows local governments to establish and regulate transitional housing accommodations within their urban growth boundary for individuals and families who lack permanent or safe shelter. Intended for use on a limited, seasonal, or emergency basis, transitional housing includes yurts, huts, cabins, fabric structures and tents, in addition to areas that allow overnight vehicle stays in parking lots or facilities. Transitional housing

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accommodations may provide access to water, cooking, and other basic hygiene services.

House Bill 4037 A requires the Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to lease certain surplus, unused or underutilized state real property owned by the Department to the City of Salem for the city's use as transitional housing accommodations. The measure directs other state agencies to assist in making such properties available for lease.