# Oregon Secretary of State

# **Notary Training**

HB 4020

### **BACKGROUND**

We build trust between the people of Oregon and our state government so that public services can make a positive impact on peoples' lives. The Corporation Division processes notary apostilles/authentications for important documents that our customers rely on. We also offer training for notaries in the state. The training has been refreshed and is provided through various methods: in-person, via webinar, and through self-paced learning format. It's also been expanded with a "refresher" course, and trainings are updated as needed to ensure notaries have up to date information.

#### THE PROBLEM

Currently, a notary is required to attend training before they apply for a commission the first time and then again if they expire before re-applying. A notary could go many years without receiving training, and this has resulted in errors we are seeing in notarizations.

#### PROPOSED SOLUTION

Change to ORS 194.325 to require notaries to receive training every 4 years, which is a change from the current process. Currently, if a commissioned notary applies for a new commission prior to expiration, they have the option to bypass training. If this bill is passed, it will ensure that notaries are getting up-to-date information through training, and in turn, will reduce errors.

HB 4020 helps the Corporation Division strengthen the notary education training program, support commissioned notaries by requiring review of notarial requirements, and address frequent mistakes in notarizations.

## HOW THE PROPOSAL HELPS OREGONIANS:

It builds trust in our ability to enforce laws and rules in order to assist notaries public and the general public.



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