

House Bill 4020

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Presession filed (at the request of House Interim Committee on Rules for Representative Ben Bowman)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act makes some agencies tell a permit applicant the legal reason for denial and give a guide about contesting the denial. The Act makes some agencies make a KPM for how fast the agency gives out permits. (Flesch Readability Score: 60.6).

Requires certain agencies to specify the authority justifying the denial of a permit application and provide the applicant a guide on how to contest the denial.

Requires certain agencies to develop a performance measure to measure the timeliness of permit processing and issuance.

Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1 Relating to permits; and prescribing an effective date.

2 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

3 **SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2026 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 183.**

4 **SECTION 2. (1) This section applies to the following agencies:**

5 **(a) The Department of Environmental Quality.**

6 **(b) The Department of Transportation.**

7 **(c) The Department of State Lands.**

8 **(d) The State Department of Energy.**

9 **(e) The State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries.**

10 **(2) When an agency listed in subsection (1) of this section denies an application for a permit, as defined in ORS 183.700, the agency shall specify the statutory or regulatory authority justifying the denial and provide the applicant a guide on how to contest the denial.**

11 **(3) An agency listed in subsection (1) of this section shall develop a performance measure as provided in ORS 291.110 that measures the timeliness of permit processing and issuance. The performance measure must be accompanied by a description of what slows processing and issuance of permits and what steps in the processing of permits take the most time. The performance measure may be accompanied by suggestions for statutory and other changes that could accelerate the timelines.**

12 **SECTION 3. This 2026 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2026 regular session of the Eighty-third Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.