

Submitter: Daniel Platt
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4145

Argument Opposing Senate Consideration of Oregon House Bill 4145

Although Oregon House Bill 4145 has passed the House, it should not proceed before the Senate given the serious concerns surrounding its committee process.

Allegations of misconduct and coercive behavior by Jason Kropf have been raised in connection with the bill's handling at the committee level. Committee proceedings are foundational to the integrity of legislation. It is in committee that testimony is weighed, amendments are considered, and members deliberate in detail. If that stage of the process was compromised by coercion or undue pressure, then the integrity of the bill itself is called into question.

The fact that the bill later passed the House does not cure procedural or ethical concerns originating in committee. A flawed process at the committee stage can shape the substance, structure, and trajectory of legislation long before it reaches the floor.

The Senate's role is not merely to ratify House action, but to act as an independent body ensuring that legislation has been developed through fair and transparent means. Proceeding with HB 4145 without addressing credible concerns about committee conduct risks:

- * Undermining public confidence in the legislative process.
- * Signaling tolerance for coercive or improper influence in committee deliberations.
- * Weakening the Senate's responsibility as an institutional check.

Before taking up this measure, the Senate should insist on a formal review of the alleged misconduct in committee. Legislative integrity depends as much on process as on policy.

Until these concerns are fully examined and resolved, HB 4145 should not be before the Senate.

Respectfully,
Daniel M. Platt