

05/28/2021
From the desk of
Senator Sara Gelser

HB 2682



HB 2682 comes out of a tragic situation involving a public works employee who was killed on the job operating a piece of heavy equipment that was unsafe. During this incident an OSHA investigation concluded that the heavy equipment had insufficient safety equipment, numerous mechanical issues and was being operated with little to no training.

People using heavy equipment should have peace of mind when getting on equipment that it is safe, and in good working condition. This bill takes a step towards giving more tools to public contracting agencies who rent heavy equipment for self performed work. It also gives agencies more tools to hold companies accountable if the equipment arrives on the worksite and is missing safety equipment or has mechanical issues upon initial inspection.

Oregon AFSCME urges you to vote yes on this bill that was worked on and amended after numerous meetings working with stakeholders. This bill is a good step toward increasing worker safety.

