

From the desk of

  
Senator Tim Knopp

## Oppose HB 3242 & 3243

*Now is The Worst Time to Risk Higher Insurance Rates*

As organizations representing thousands of Oregonians and small businesses across the state, we ask you to oppose HB 3242 and 3243. These proposals would greatly expand litigation in resolving insurance claims, disrupting Oregon's insurance market, and threatening higher costs for consumers at a time when they can least afford it. After years of navigating pandemic conditions, and now extreme inflation, please stand with us in opposing raising our rates.

Studies show authorizing secondary lawsuits regarding the resolution of claims has negatively impacted insurance rates in other states by making claims harder to resolve, increasing investigation and litigation costs, and encouraging frivolous claims.

Oregon currently has a strong system in place for consumers to bring a lawsuit or file a complaint with the state's insurance commissioner if they feel they have been treated unfairly. Oregon's insurance division (DCBS) can order insurers to pay claims, as well as require restitution and levy fines against insurers that act in bad faith.

People across Oregon are struggling to afford the cost of living, and our local businesses are struggling to stay competitive with the rising costs of materials, labor, and services. Now is the worst time to risk raising insurance costs for families and local small businesses.

### HB 3242 Bill Summary

- Authorizes secondary lawsuit over claim resolution
- Allows for triple award damages
- Allows courts to award attorney fees and other additional damages

### HB 3243 Bill Summary

- Adds insurance to the Unlawful Trade Practices Act
- Authorizes private lawsuits, awards of actual & punitive damages, and attorney fees
- Expands enforcement to Oregon DOJ (in addition to DCBS)

**Please Oppose HB 3242 & 3243**





NW Insurance Council

