

COMMISSIONER DAVID LOVEALL, District 2, Springfield

PUBLIC SERVICE BUILDING / 125 EAST 8TH AVENUE / EUGENE, OR 97401

June 20, 2025

Senate Committee on Rules HB 3638 Related to Executive Sessions

Dear Chair Jama, Vice-Chair Bonham, and Members of the Committee:

I write to express my strong support for HB 3638, which extends the period for individuals to file grievances regarding violation of rules governing executive sessions.

Currently, the law provides a 30-day window for filing grievances related to general violations, but it is limited to 90-days for violations specifically related to executive session rules. This limited timeframe can pose challenges for members of the public and concerned parties to thoroughly review and respond to potentially intricate violations, particularly in complex or delayed cases where evidence and records might not be immediately available.

By extending the filing window to 90-days, this bill ensures that individuals have a fairer opportunity to identify, review, and act upon violations of executive session rules. It promotes transparency, accountability, and better oversight of public bodies which are essential for maintaining public trust.

Additionally, this bill complements the additional response process by allowing public bodies more time to investigate and rectify potential violations, including rescinding decisions or acknowledging past missteps in a transparent manner.

This measure aligns with principles of good governance by empowering citizens and oversight bodies to hold public officials accountable for adherence to legal standards around executive sessions. It ensures that violations to not go unchallenged simply because of constrained time limits.

I urge the committee to support HB 3638 to strengthen transparency and accountability in our government processes.

Sincerely,

David Loveall, Chair / Lane County Board of Commissioners