



Senator Frank Morse

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 22, 2008

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Government accountability 2.0

Continuous improvement committee to become reality

Salem, OR – Thanks to Senator Frank Morse (R-Albany), a bill to hold state agencies and government programs accountable for resources and results is finally on it's way to implementation. SB 1099 passed the Senate by a unanimous vote Friday.

“This is a bill that will help government achieve higher standards of performance,” said Morse. “This bill puts in statute the concept of continuous improvement and its implementation will be a collaborative effort between the legislature and the governor.”

Senator Morse's bill will establish a committee that oversees the planning and implementation of performance measurements and process improvements across state government. Programs that meet set goals and expectations will be offered recognition and incentives. The end result will be real and specific data that measures success and failure in government, and encourages continuous improvement and efficiency in the way government operates.

“Oregonians want to see government prioritize, eliminate waste and spend money where it is most effective,” said Morse. “When there is no way to tell if taxpayer dollars are doing a good job or not, the public is justified in being skeptical of how government does business.”

SB 1099 is now on its way to the House floor for approval. Senate Bill 1099 was introduced as SB 1039 in the 2007 session and gained widespread support. The bill passed both chambers and three committees with only one vote in opposition. Senate bill 1039 was the only policy bill to be vetoed by the Governor, and the only government accountability measure to pass out of the legislature last session. Senator Morse was able to work with the Governor's office through the interim to resolve their differences, and SB 1099 is the result.

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