

June 15, 2021

Dear Co-Chairs of the Joint Conduct Committee:

I am resigning from the position of Acting Legislative Equity Officer on end of day June 16, 2021. Due to the unique nature of this position, and the attached memo outlining important oversight responsibilities that you have for this office, I am providing an additional day for any questions or assistance I can provide.

The Legislative Equity Office can be a national example for legislative branches. The Legislative Equity Office as it stands is essentially non-existent. When I started, there were no case files, electronic documents, trainings scheduled, and bills that were unpaid resulting in investigations lasting on average 10 months over this past year. There were outstanding cases where individuals tried to file but heard nothing back.

The severity of the situation means that justice is not being given to those who have come forward and may cost taxpayers millions in lawsuits from the liability of not having proper procedures, documentation, and oversight. I do not believe that you know the full detail of the state of the office and so I've included a memo that I was planning to present at a future oversight meeting.

I came nearly 2,000 miles to do good work. For the sake of the next person, take some time to consider the office, the role, and how to be strategic in its functions.

For those who have been harmed and continue to be harmed by harassers in the Oregon Capitol, please take up the oversight responsibilities to bring correction to the Legislative Equity Office before your next Officer comes on board.

Sincerely,

Nate Monson