

State Representative
Cliff Bentz
House District 60

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Rep. Bentz Assembles Team for 2014 Legislative Session

SALEM—Representative Cliff Bentz (R-Ontario) will have these people helping represent District 60's interests during the 2014 Legislative Session, which convened Monday, February 3, 2014.

Andrea Dominguez, of Ontario, Oregon, is Rep. Bentz's District Director. She manages the day-to-day operations from the District Office in Ontario. A member of Rep. Bentz's staff since August 2009, Mrs. Dominguez holds a Bachelor's degree in Media Arts with a concentration in Journalism from Eastern Oregon University, and an Associates' degree from Treasure Valley Community College.

Mrs. Dominguez works on research projects, constituent concerns, and Eastern Oregon issues.

Lynne Nickol, from Eugene, joins Rep. Bentz's staff as Legislative Director. Lynne holds a Juris Doctorate from the University of Oregon School of Law with an emphasis in Environmental & Natural Resources Law and Ocean & Coastal Law, and a Bachelor of Philosophy degree from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio.

Ms. Nickol will provide issue analysis, bill research, hearing backup, process management, and policy development.

Linda Anderson, from Salem, will be Rep. Bentz's Receptionist. Ms. Anderson has taken computer and secretarial courses at the New Hampshire Voc-Tech College in New Hampshire, El Paso Community College in Colorado, and Portland Community College.

Ms. Anderson will schedule meetings, organize email correspondence, and help manage mail and paperwork flow from the Salem Capitol Office.

Chris Beattie, a second year law student at the University of Oregon School of Law, will be a volunteer Legislative Intern in Rep. Bentz's Capitol Office in Salem for the 2014 Session. He holds a Master's degree in Criminal Justice from Boise State University and a Bachelor's degree from Washington State University. Mr. Beattie is a native of Washington, and has worked as a Legal Intern for the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office.

Matt Doumit, a second year law student at Willamette University College of Law, will also work as a volunteer Legislative Intern. Mr. Doumit, from Washington, holds a Bachelor's degree in Forestry from Washington State University, and has worked as a Policy Advocate for WSU during the 2013 Oregon Legislative Session.

Garrett Kitamura will also work for Rep. Bentz as a volunteer Legislative Intern. He is from Ontario, Oregon, and has a unique advantage in assisting with District 60 concerns. After graduating from Ontario High School, Mr. Kitamura deferred enrolling in college for a year to serve full-time as a State Officer for the Oregon Future Farmers of America. He is currently a Freshman at Oregon State University, majoring in English and Pre-Education.

Rep. Bentz said, "Having these great employees working in both Eastern Oregon and Salem will provide District 60 with a significant advantage in the legislative arena. With this highly educated and experienced staff, will we be able to better research and develop informed positions for District 60 on 2014 Legislative Session issues."

"I welcome you to stop by my offices in Salem or Ontario during the Session to say hello and witness our legislative team in action."

The Legislative Administration allocates funds to each Legislator for the hiring of additional staff for the Session. In past years, the Administration has limited the number of full-time employees (FTE) that could be paid for with the funds provided to individual Legislators (usually limited to 1.5 FTE). Rep. Bentz has used contributions to his Campaign to fund additional staff for previous Sessions. However for the 2014 Session, the Administration recognized the need for each Legislator to be allowed to determine the number of staff needed for his/her office, and decided not to limit the FTE.

Rep. Bentz said, "It is extremely important that District 60 have highly qualified people working for it. Water, public land, taxes, energy, health care, and education all require good, clear thinking. I am glad that the Administration has recognized the need for additional staffing during the Legislative Session."

Rep. Bentz is Vice-Chair of the Transportation & Economic Development Committee, a member of the Energy & Environment Committee, the Revenue Committee, the Legislative Counsel Committee, and the Small Business Task Force. He is also Assistant Minority Leader with an emphasis on policy development and budget.

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