

State Representative
Cliff Bentz
House District 60

PRESS RELEASE: December 23, 2014

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Rep. Bentz Assembles Team for 2015 Legislative Session

SALEM—Representative Cliff Bentz (R-Ontario) has assembled the following people to help represent District 60's (Baker, Grant, Harney, Lake, and Malheur Counties) interests during the 2015 Legislative Session, which will convene Monday, February 2, 2015.

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 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 staffs Rep. Bentz's Eastern Oregon office, works on research projects, assists in responding to constituent concerns, drafts press releases, compiles the Representative's newsletter, and helps manage the flow of legislative matters.

Michael Short, Esq., from Boise, Idaho, joins Rep. Bentz's staff as Legislative Director. Michael holds a Juris Doctorate from the Loyola University New Orleans College of Law with certificates in Civil Law, International Legal Studies, and Environmental Law. He also holds a Bachelor of Philosophy degree from St. John's University in Minnesota, and is currently working on his Legum Magister (LLM) Degree in Polar Law at the University of Akureyri in Iceland.

Mr. Short will provide policy analysis, bill research, hearing backup, task force process management, and policy development.

Nicole Crane, from Salem, will staff the Representative's front office in the Capitol. Ms. Crane holds a Bachelor's Degree in Community Health Education, with a minor in Gerontology, from Western Oregon University in Monmouth, where she has been working as an Administrative Assistant.

Ms. Crane will maintain the Representative's calendar, organize email correspondence, and direct the flow of visitors through the Salem Capitol Office.

Lauren Boyd, from Vancouver, WA, will be a volunteer Legislative Intern for Rep. Bentz's team during the 2015 Session. Lauren is currently working on her Juris Doctorate at the University of Oregon School of Law, and will graduate in May 2015. She is the Executive Editor of the Oregon Law Review and a Fellow with the Reentry Court Clinic Design. Ms. Boyd holds a Bachelor's Degree in the History of Art from Johns Hopkins University in Maryland. She is currently working as a court-certified intern for the Clark County Prosecuting Attorney's Office in Washington.

Garrett Kitamura, from Ontario, will return to Rep. Bentz's staff as a volunteer Legislative Intern for the 2015 Session. Garrett worked as a Legislative Intern for Rep. Bentz during the 2014 Legislative Session. 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 (FFA), and was recently awarded his American FFA Degree. He is currently a sophomore at Oregon State University, majoring in English and Pre-Education.

Kieran Colahan, from Burns, will also be a volunteer Legislative Intern in Rep. Bentz's Capitol Office for the 2015 Session. Kieran is a junior at Willamette University, majoring in Sociology with a minor in Economics. He is a member of the Willamette University men's basketball team.

Rep. Bentz said, "This group will provide District 60 with a significant advantage in dealing with legislative issues, and it helps that three of my team are from Eastern Oregon."

The Legislature has allocated \$37,662 to each Legislator to pay for staff, office supplies, and limited travel for the six month, "odd year" Legislative Session. Two FTE (Full Time Equivalent) are paid for from this fund. Since Rep. Bentz maintains his legislative office in Eastern Oregon year-round, he uses campaign contributions from his Campaign fund to pay for staff not paid for by the state.

Rep. Bentz is currently Vice-Chair of the Revenue Committee, Vice-Chair of the Joint Tax Credits Committee, and a member of the Energy & Environment Committee, the Transportation & Economic Development Committee, and the Legislative Counsel Committee. He is also Co-Chair of the Public Infrastructure Commission, a member of the Governor's Transportation Vision Panel, and Assistant Minority Leader.

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