Senate Democrats deliver on education and other priorities for all Oregonians

Oregon Senate Majority Office releases wrap-up of 2019 Legislative Session

SALEM – Senate Democrats delivered on an ambitious agenda in the 2019 Legislative Session to build a healthy and prosperous Oregon.

“The Senate Democrats had big plans this session, particularly when it comes to transforming our schools,” Senate Majority Leader Ginny Burdick (D-Portland) said. “So we delivered a historic victory by creating the first dedicated and sustainable revenue source solely for education. Oregonians all over the state also are grappling with housing issues, so we passed a first-of-its-kind rent stabilization bill. Democrats also delivered on key funding for the Oregon Health Plan and criminal justice reforms that will make our state better going into the future.”

Democrats earned several key victories fitting with key general priorities for the session. Those include the following bills, listed by topic area in the Oregon Senate Democratic Caucus 2019 Session Agenda:

- **Supporting Oregon’s environment and natural resources**
  - SB 90: Bans single-use plastic straws statewide
  - SB 256: Bans oil-drilling off the Oregon Coast
  - SB 1044: Transitioning state fleet to zero emissions
  - HB 2007: Invests in clean diesel upgrades to reduce carbon emissions
  - HB 2509: Banned single-use plastic bags across the state
  - HB 2623: Banned fracking in the state of Oregon
• **Investing in educational opportunities for all Oregonians**
  o **HB 3427:** Student Success Act creates dedicated, sustainable fund for schools
  o **SB 3:** Allows community college to offer bachelor’s degrees in pertinent topics
  o **SB 155:** Strengthening sexual misconduct investigations when school employees are involved
  o **SB 664:** Requires genocide education in all school districts in Oregon
  o **SB 859:** Increasing access to Oregon in-state tuition for ‘Dreamers’ in grad school
  o **HB 2191:** Mental health excused absences in schools
  o **HB 2023:** Statewide inclusive curriculum standards

• **Encouraging healthy communities to thrive**
  o **SB 52:** Adi’s Act provides supports to help prevent youth suicide
  o **SB 250:** Prohibits health benefit plans from discrimination
  o **SB 262:** Extends sunset on program encouraging multifamily housing development
  o **SB 278:** Extends rent guarantee program to foster youth
  o **SB 526:** Universal voluntary nurse visits for families with newborns
  o **SB 608:** Establishes first-in-the-nation statewide rent stabilization law
  o **SB 698** and **HB 2935:** Legislation requiring multiple languages on prescription drug instruction labels, as well as making readers available from pharmacies for the visually impaired
  o **SB 770:** Creates a committee to create a plan and transition plan for universal health care for all Oregonians
  o **SB 910:** Increases access to addiction-treatment medications
  o **HB 2005:** Establishes paid family and medical leave insurance program for all Oregonian workers
  o **HB 2010:** Continues funding mechanism to keep thousands of Oregonians insured through the Oregon Health Plan
  o **HB 2016:** Public Worker Protection Act protects workers’ right to participate in labor unions

• **Advancing government accountability and transparency**
  o **SJR 18:** Constitutional amendment referral for allowing campaign contribution and expenditure limits
  o **SB 15:** Gives Oregon Youth Authority ability to inspect facilities where Oregon’s youth are detained
  o **SB 420:** Expunging past marijuana convictions
  o **SB 478:** Prohibits campaign funds’ use as ‘hush money’
  o **SB 861:** Paid postage for Oregon’s ballot return envelopes
  o **SB 870:** Joining the National Popular Vote Compact
  o **SB 944:** Requires audits after every election to ensure accuracy of results
  o **SB 1049:** PERS reform
  o **HB 2027:** Gives Child Care Office more enforcement tools to protect child safety in child care facilities
- **HB 2430** and **HB 2353**: Public Records Advisory Council and public records accountability
- **HB 2716** and **HB 2983**: Campaign finance donor transparency
- **HB 3310**: Oregon Voting Rights Act will give greater voice to the underrepresented

**Promoting public and workplace safety**
- **SB 1**: Creates coordinating council to ensure better services for youth
- **SB 474**: Neglectful parents won’t be able to collect in lawsuits when their children die under Department of Human Services care
- **SB 479**: Requires written workplace discrimination policies
- **SB 576**: ‘Kaylee’s Law’ prohibits campus security from looking like police
- **SB 577**: Cracks down on hate crimes
- **SB 726**: Protections for survivors of workplace harassment
- **SB 944**: Requires audits after every election to ensure accuracy of results
- **SB 962**: Streamlines U Visa process to increase reporting of human trafficking and other crimes
- **SB 995**: Extends period a survivor can file for a Sexual Assault Protective Order
- **SB 1008**: Establishes process for second-look hearings, gives juveniles a second chance to reform instead of becoming hardened criminals
- **SB 1013**: Death penalty reform
- **HCR 20** and **HB 3377**: Update Oregon Legislature’s current safe and respectful workplace policies, establish new response procedures for harassment and create independent Legislative Equity Office to address complaints
- **HB 2013**: Closing the ‘intimate partner and stalker loophole’
- **HB 2015**: Improving public safety by making driver licenses available to all
- **HB 2328**: Cracks down on auto theft
- **HB 2393**: Updates ‘revenge porn’ definition to include text messages and other methods of distribution

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