



OFFICE OF THE SENATE PRESIDENT

900 Court St., N.E., Room S-201

Salem OR 97301

www.oregonlegislature.gov

NEWS RELEASE

Contact:

Robin Maxey

(503) 986-1605

robin.maxey@oregonlegislature.gov

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COURTNEY RELEASES STATEMENT ON PASSING OF FORMER SPEAKER, PORTLAND MAYOR VERA KATZ

Statement by Senate President Peter Courtney

“Vera Katz was more than a pioneer. She was a force. She escaped the Nazis. She battled cancer. She ran the House. She ran the city. She was a natural leader. Vera led and people followed. As Speaker, she had partnership with Denny Jones. She was from Brooklyn and Portland. He was Prineville and Ontario. They didn’t have an urban-rural divide. They worked together. They’re both gone now, but that’s a part of her legacy I will always remember. Oregon has lost great human being.”