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## NEWS RELEASE

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## SENATE PRESIDENT PROVIDES AUTHENTIC OREGON FLAGS FOR LEGISLATORS' DESKS

(SALEM) – The small flags which adorn legislators' desks on the floor of the Senate and House chambers are now official and authentic flags of the State of Oregon.



Oregon's is the only state with different designs on the two sides of its flag. Until today, the small flags on lawmakers' desks featured the state seal on one of the flag but nothing on the other.



Flags with the state seal on the front side and a beaver on the back side – as described in Oregon statutes since 1925 – were presented to the House and Senate by Senate President Peter Courtney as part the opening ceremonies for the 77<sup>th</sup> Oregon Legislative Assembly.

In remarks before a joint session of the Legislature, the Senate President told legislators that he hoped the two-sided flags would remind them in the 2013 session to consider all sides of the issues before them and to remember that it takes both parties and both chambers of the Legislature to complete a successful session.

Because no small desk-size Oregon flags with two sides are manufactured commercially, the flags were produced by Oregon Corrections Enterprises Prison Blues at the Eastern Oregon Correctional Institute in Pendleton. New walnut and oak bases were produced in the carpentry shop at the Oregon State Penitentiary in Salem. Courtney purchased the flag sets and bases with funds from his political action committee and presented them as gifts to the House and Senate.

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