

Paul L Evans
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 20



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 26, 2015

Dear Valued Constituent

With the first six weeks of legislative work already behind us, we've already accomplished quite a bit in ensuring that Oregonians who work hard have a chance to pursue the American Dream. This session, I've been adamant that we prioritize expanded opportunities, rewarded work, and fairness for all Oregonians.



Collaboration in Action (Vets Forum)

I've also been working specifically to improve the lives of Oregon's veterans. Oregon's veterans have made substantial sacrifices to ensure our safety at a state and country, and it is critical that we do our part to give back.

I've introduced legislation to assist veterans when applying for federal and state benefits by establishing the **Veterans' Benefit Economic Development Fund** (HB 2899).

I've also been working to provide a **tax credit for qualified veterans** (HB 2839) to provide monetary relief to those who have sacrificed greatly.

Finally, I'm hoping to **increase educational and career training opportunities for our veterans** (HB 2840) by establishing the Oregon Educational and Workforce Development Bridge Loan Program.

In addition to improving the lives of Oregon's vets, I hope to pass a number of legislative priorities designed to expand local wineries and eco-tourism, and improve sustainment efforts in the agriculture industry. Agriculture in the Willamette valley is critical to our local communities, and we need to do all we can to ensure its growth and ongoing success.

Lastly, as the **Clean Fuels measure** (SB 324) was recently passed, I would like to spend some time addressing my reasoning behind supporting such a polarized measure. As I said on the House Floor during the debate, war is ugly, it is messy, it unleashes the worst of human nature—it must always be the last result; war must never become too easy, or too familiar.

Moreover, it is no surprise that the Iraq-Afghanistan conflict is largely fueled by energy interests. And, although this bill is not perfect, it is a step in the right direction that may help us send fewer young men and women to war on our behalf.

Another significant factor that guided my decision was my recent visit to the **Linn-Benton Community College Advanced Transportation Technology Center**. This state of the art facility is one of four in the country and is actively working to develop the infrastructure of tomorrow today. This facility and the many others that may be developed as a result of SB 234 represent a critical opportunity for local economic development across the state and the creation of jobs at bio-refineries in the timber industry and the building industry.



LBCC Advanced Transportation Tech Center

I would also like to take a moment and encourage you to visit my legislative website (www.oregonlegislature.gov/evans) as we are constantly updating it with pertinent information. Specifically, take a look at my calendar, where you will find dates and times regarding upcoming Town Halls and Forums.

Just as a heads up, we have two more Forums scheduled in March. First, we have our **Small Business Forum**, which will be held at the Oregon Capitol building in Hearing Room 50 on March 16th beginning at 6:00pm and scheduled to 7:00pm. Second, on March 30th we have our **Parents and Teacher Forum** beginning at 6:00pm and Scheduled to 7:00pm, location TBD.

If the past six weeks are an indicator of things to come, **I am excited about what else we can and will do in fighting for Oregon's future!** If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact my office as I prioritize meeting with constituents.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Paul L. Evans".

Paul L. Evans
Oregon House of Representatives
District 20