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Speaker Fahey Remembers Peter Courtney, A True Legend of Oregon Public Service

SALEM, Ore. – Today, **House Speaker Julie Fahey (D-Eugene)** issued the following statement following news of the passing of Peter Courtney, the longest serving legislator in Oregon’s history:

“Peter Courtney set the standard for what it means to be a true champion for the state of Oregon and its people. His passion for our state was clear no matter where he was or what office he served in – as a Salem City Councillor, as a member of the Oregon House, or as Senate President.

In the legislature, we came to know Peter as someone who worked to do the most good for as many people as possible. Among his accomplishments include passing the Student Success Act that increased funding for K-12 education in Oregon, modernizing the legislature to meet more regularly, and beginning the legislature's needed investments in mental health.

Peter cared deeply for the state of Oregon and for the city of Salem that he represented. He also cared deeply for the legislature as an institution and as a cornerstone of our democracy. In a time when we’re seeing an erosion of trust in government and in institutions more broadly, my hope is that Peter’s legacy can remind us all of the importance and significance of our work and of coming together to best serve the interests of our constituents.”

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