



**JODI HACK
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OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HOUSE DISTRICT 19**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 21, 2016**

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**REPRESENTATIVE HACK FIGHTS OEGB'S PROPOSED \$1200 OPT-
OUT SURCHARGE PER EMPLOYEE TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS
OEGB delays implementing surcharge for now**

SALEM – State Representative Jodi Hack (R-Salem) has, behind the scenes, been fighting a proposed \$1200 surcharge to school districts for every employee that opts-out of unneeded health care benefits offered by the Oregon Educators Benefit Board. The Rules Coordinator for the Board, April Kelly, announced late last week that they would delay implementing the fine . . . for now.

“We have won the day but this isn’t over,” said Rep. Hack. The proposed rule would have charged school districts \$100/month or \$1200/year for every employee that opted out of unneeded health care benefits offered by the school district. Employees may opt out for a number of reasons including already having coverage through a spouse’s medical plan. On April 26th, the OEGB board approved to move the proposed fine into the permanent rule making process. The rule, if approved, would have become effective October 1, 2016.

“The timing on this proposal could not be worse for school districts,” said Rep. Hack. “They have received almost no warning, the costs would be unanticipated, and the budgets have already been approved. How are school districts supposed to pay for these surcharges?” According to a spreadsheet distributed to legislators, school districts could have to pay in excess of \$100,000 in fines as a result of the proposed rule.

“Over the last several weeks I have been working with Lindsay Capps, Chief Education and Ivo Trummer, Legislative Director for Governor Brown. I will continue to discuss with them my concerns and the concerns of my fellow legislators about this proposal,” said Rep. Hack.

Rep. Hack represents House District 19 which includes parts of South Salem and the cities of Aumsville and Turner.

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This press release and an archive of previous press releases issued by Rep. Hack's office are available on the web at: www.oregonlegislature.gov/hack.

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