



PRESS RELEASE HOUSE MAJORITY OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 25, 2023

Press Contact:

Hannah Kurowski, hannah.kurowski@oregonlegislature.gov

HOUSE DEMOCRATS COMPLETE 2023 SESSION DELIVERING MAJOR VICTORIES FOR OREGONIANS

Democrats deliver on housing and homelessness, public safety, behavioral health and addiction services, good paying jobs, access to abortion, stronger schools and more

SALEM, Ore. - Today, the Oregon Legislature wrapped up the 82nd Legislative Session, marked by major victories for the state of Oregon. House Democrats delivered on every priority area in the Caucus' [Rebuilding for the Future](#) agenda, which was created to respond to the issues Oregonians care about most, including **housing and homelessness, public safety, behavioral health and addiction services, a fair economy with good paying jobs, access to reproductive health care, stronger schools**, and more.

“The work we accomplished over the last six months will make a real difference in the lives of Oregonians,” **said House Majority Leader Julie Fahey** (D-West Eugene & Veneta). “We laid the foundation to build more housing and get people off the streets and into shelters; we protected Oregonians’ fundamental right to an abortion; we established an Early Literacy Initiative that will help our students succeed; and we passed Oregon’s first ever child tax credit, which will put money back into the pockets of working families and lift children in Oregon out of poverty.”

“Together, this chamber overcame monumental challenges to seize unprecedented opportunities,” **said House Speaker Dan Rayfield** (D-Corvallis). “We’re raising Oregon Opportunity Grant tuition relief to 75% to make sure 36,000 annual recipients can go to college. We invested \$260 million in Oregon’s semiconductor industry and modernized our economic investment structure to keep Oregon competitive on a national scale. We’re investing in vital infrastructure projects across the state and making climate spending mandatory. This session has been a rollercoaster. But ultimately, it is marked by progress.”

“A budget is a reflection of our collective values. What ours shows is that we’re not going to leave anyone behind as we work toward a more safe and secure future,” **said Representative Tawna Sanchez** (D-Portland), **co-chair of the Joint Committee on**

Ways and Means. “The investments we made in behavioral health and to improve access to addiction services are going to save lives and get people the help they need.”

This session, House Democrats had the most diverse Caucus in Oregon history, including 11 new members who brought their invaluable, unique perspectives and experiences to the policy-making table.

2023 Legislative Session Snapshot

Democrats passed hundreds of critical bills and investments this session. Among those, include:

Affordable Housing & Homelessness

Housing Supply and Stability Investment (SB 5511, SB 5505, HB 3395): Nearly \$2 billion in investments, building on prior emergency investments. Funds construction of new affordable housing units.

Affordable Housing & Emergency Homelessness Response Package (HB 2001, HB 5019): \$200 million investment helps shelter Oregonians living on the street, prevent more homelessness, and ramp up affordable housing production across the state.

HB 2984: Allows local governments to convert commercial buildings to residential housing.

HB 3395: Streamlines affordable housing production and increases homeownership opportunities, especially for BIPOC communities.

SB 611: Rent stabilization for working families, keeping Oregonians housed.

HB 3215: Establishes the Disaster Housing Recovery Fund to provide assistance to rebuild housing destroyed by a disaster.

HB 2982: Allows Oregonians to recover 70% of value of lost property after a disaster.

HB 3395: Reduces barriers to siting emergency shelters.

Economic Development & Fairness

Early Childhood Investment: A \$172 million investment that addresses the cost-of-living crisis, helps reduce child poverty and supports systemic investments in happy, healthy families. Another \$1.2 billion was invested in the Department of Early Learning and Childcare (DELCC) to give the newly independent agency a stable foundation for its vital work.

HB 3235: Oregon Kids’ Credit - Helps struggling parents make ends meet and lifts families out of poverty with a child tax credit that will provide \$1,000 a year, per child.

SB 4: Oregon CHIPS Act - Invests \$260 million to secure Oregon as a global leader in the semiconductor industry, create good paying jobs, and boost our economy for generations to come.

HB 2009: Economic Incentives Modernization Package - Aligns Oregon's tax incentive structure with Oregon values and bolsters our economy by creating a Research and Development tax credit, extending the Enterprise Zone Program, and updating the Strategic Investment Program.

HB 3410: Rural Infrastructure and Economic Development Package - Revitalizes rural communities by investing \$32.2 million in building critical infrastructure, bolstering key rural industries and sectors, and addressing workforce housing shortage.

Addiction Treatment & Behavioral Health

Behavioral Health Care Delivery Investment (HB 2757, SB 5525, HB 5026, SB 5506) : Building off of the \$1 billion invested in 2021-2022, this \$153 million investment will help stabilize mobile crisis response funding and coordination between care centers and response systems so that Oregonians can receive the care they need.

HB 2757: Critical, stable funding for the 9-8-8 Suicide Prevention & Behavioral Health Crisis Line to help Oregonians in need.

HB 2395: Bipartisan Opioid Harm Reduction Package that will address the state's fentanyl crisis and save lives by increasing access to naloxone.

HB 2513: The Hope & Recovery Bill fixes Measure 110 implementation so that Oregonians struggling with addiction can receive the care they need and get on a path to recovery.

HB 2645: Holds bad actors accountable through penalties for possession of fentanyl.

Community Safety

Public Safety & Accountability Investment: A \$4 billion investment to fund law enforcement, hold bad actors accountable, and give communities the safety and security they need. It includes an unprecedented \$1.3 billion to fully fund the Oregon Department of Emergency Management.

SB 337: Addresses Oregon's public defense crisis by ensuring an accountable, transparent, and efficient system so that Oregonians are afforded their right to representation.

HB 2005: The Gun Violence Prevention Bill makes communities safer, helps law enforcement do their jobs, and respects responsible gun owners.

HB 3443: Further protects victims of bias crimes.

HB 2316: Keeps Oregon's roads safe by expanding our Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants (DUII) laws.

Stronger Schools

Record K-12 Education Investment (HB 5015): Invests a historic \$10.2 billion in the State School Fund, supporting Oregon's K-12 students and educators.

HB 3198: Early Literacy Success Initiative – Invests \$144.3 million to support evidence-based, culturally responsive literacy strategies in and outside of the classroom, setting up Oregon students for future academic success.

SB 283: Addresses the shortage of educators in Oregon's K-12 schools by strengthening workforces.

HB 3005: Increases the availability of child care by creating a grant program to provide financial assistance to help build and open new child care facilities.

HB 3144: Invests \$2.1 million in the Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (NH/PI) Student Success Plan, providing targeted interventions to improve access to educational opportunities and support for NH/PI students.

HB 5025: Higher Ed Opportunity Package - Invests \$3.7 billion to ensure Oregonians seeking postsecondary education obtain high quality education. Includes \$1 billion for the Public University Support Fund, \$800 million for the Community College Support Fund, \$308.4 million to the Oregon Opportunity Grant, and \$24.2 million to the Tribal Student Grant program.

Reproductive Health

HB 2002: Reproductive Health & Access to Care Act restores the abortion rights Oregonians had under *Roe v. Wade*, expands insurance coverage for gender-affirming care, and protects Oregon medical providers' ability to give the best, most appropriate care to their patients.

Access to Health Care

HB 2697: Ensures safe nursing staffing levels to support the wellbeing of our critical workers and provide quality care for all Oregonians.

HB 2725, SB 192: Creates regulation and transparency for pharmacy benefit managers, the middle person of the pharmaceutical industry, to decrease the cost of drugs for Oregonians and protect small pharmacies.

HB 2574: Improves access to life-saving HIV-prevention treatment, PEP.

SB 1089: Creates the Universal Health Plan Governance Board to develop a comprehensive, flexible system for providing every Oregonian with affordable health care.

Climate & Environment

Climate Resilience Package Investment (HB 3409, HB 3630): Invests \$90 million in community-focused and forward-looking solutions to increase our energy efficiency, keep

Oregonians safe from extreme weather, maximizing federal funding opportunities, and build a more resilient, sustainable, and equitable energy system.

Drought & Water Investment (HB 2010): Invests \$100 million in new and existing resources to ensure families, farms, and wildlife across Oregon have clean, safe water -- now and into the future.

Consumer Protection

SB 619: Oregon Consumer Privacy Act - Empowers Oregonians to protect their privacy online, especially children under 15.

HB 2759: Strengthens anti-robocall law to hold telemarketing companies liable for illegal robocalls.

Strengthening Democracy

HB 2004: Establishes a plan for implementing Ranked Choice Voting, which ensures voters have more of a say in who they want to represent them.

HB 2038: Closes a longstanding loophole that allowed some politicians to shield the sources of their income from public disclosure.

In the interim, House Democrats will continue to build off of the accomplishments from this session that will make Oregon a better place to live, work, and raise a family.

###