

PRESS RELEASE

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Statement from Majority Leader Jennifer Williamson on Republican Failure to Come to the Table on Revenue Reform

This session, we had not only an opportunity, but a moral obligation to rebuild the broken pieces of our budget and revenue systems, which have been crumbling for more than two decades. House Democrats worked for months in good faith to put all of the pieces together—we put forward proposals to reduce the cost of government, make targeted budget cuts, and reform business taxes in a way that reduces the tax burden on working households.

These proposals would have allowed us to begin fulfilling the promises we've made to an entire generation children—and have failed to deliver. Educators do an amazing job of teaching our kids under tough circumstances, but the fact is that elected leaders have failed to fix the broken funding system that has put our kids on one budget rollercoaster after another. This year, we could have begun solving this longstanding crisis. Instead, we're telling our students, yet again: Not this time.

House Democrats were ready to make transformational changes to how we fund and deliver critical services to students, seniors, and struggling families. The House Democrats' plan would have stabilized education funding, boosted the economy, and delivered tax relief for working families. Unfortunately, Republicans have chosen to stand in the way rather than work collaboratively in order to solve the biggest problems facing our state.

I'm outraged that Republicans would play games with Oregon's future. I'm outraged that Republicans would engage in obstructionism that is robbing our children of the education they deserve. I'm outraged that Republicans would put empty, partisan rhetoric over the needs of every resident of this state.

As we close out this legislative session and beyond, House Democrats are committed to longterm reforms that will finally build a future that lives up to our collective expectations. That work begins anew today.

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