



## HOUSE MAJORITY OFFICE

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**Press Contact:**

House Majority Office: *Lucas Bezerra*, [Lucas.Bezerra@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:Lucas.Bezerra@oregonlegislature.gov)

# Legislators Denounce Property Destruction and Criminal Actions In Portland

**Salem, OR** - Today, lawmakers are committing their support to restore public access to Portland State University and hold those who have damaged school and public property accountable.

"Violence that has occurred at Portland State University, as well as the damage to public property, has caused harm to our community and distracted us from real conversations about a humanitarian crisis," said **Rep Dacia Grayber (D-SW Portland & E Beaverton)**. "I support the measured steps PSU has taken, as well as those who actively responded to the situation, and will do what I can to help bring our community together."

Lawmakers learned that criminal actions taken Thursday morning resulted in the burning of 15 Portland Police Bureau cars and endangered first responders and the surrounding community. This occurred after vandalism at the Portland State University library and against nearby businesses also took place this week.

"Portland State University is an important institution in our region," said **Rep. Maxine Dexter (D-NW & Downtown Portland, Linton & Cathedral Park)**, who also represents portions of PSU in the State House. "I support the rights of those hoping to assemble and express their views in peaceful ways but do not support the violence and destruction that's taken place. Every student at PSU and businesses operating around them should feel safe."

"Destroying a library is against our Oregon values," said **House Majority Leader Ben Bowman (D-Tigard, Metzger & S Beaverton)**. "Despite the university administration responding to

protesters in a thoughtful and measured way, some have crossed a line. Our rights as Americans to free speech and assembly are sacred and should be protected. But violence and destruction are not acceptable.”

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