



PRESS RELEASE

OREGON HOUSE MAJORITY

For Immediate Release
Dec. 13, 2017

For More Information, Contact:
Aaron Fiedler: 503-986-1904

Rep. Phil Barnhart Will Not Seek Re-Election

SALEM – Rep. Phil Barnhart (D-Central Lane and Linn Counties) announced today that he will not seek re-election to the Oregon House of Representatives.

“It has been a great privilege to serve in Oregon’s legislature and serve the community that I love,” Rep. Barnhart said. “The work I have been able to do as a member of the House has been both challenging and fulfilling. Though I am in good health and expect to continue public service in some way, it is time for someone younger, more vigorous, and with new ideas to fill my seat in the House.”

Barnhart was first elected to the Oregon House of Representatives in 2001. He began his tenure in the House working on education, transportation, and public health issues. He first joined the House Committee on Revenue in 2003 and became chair in 2007 – a position he holds today.

In addition to becoming one of the key legislators on budgetary issues and a champion for revenue reform, Rep. Barnhart has also been a passionate advocate for environmental issues. He has fought for legislation to combat climate change and move Oregon toward a clean energy future.

House Majority Leader Jennifer Williamson praised Barnhart’s service.

“Phil has been a vital member of the Oregon House for nearly 20 years,” Majority Leader Williamson said. “He has distinguished himself as an expert on a wide-range of issues during his tenure – most especially revenue. Though I will miss my colleague, I am thrilled that my friend Phil will get to enjoy retirement with his wife, children, and grandchildren. I can’t thank him enough for his dedicated service to his community and the people of Oregon.”

Rep. Barnhart has spent most of his life in the House District he now represents. His father was an administrator at the University of Oregon, where Rep. Barnhart earned his undergraduate degree. A lawyer and psychologist, Rep. Barnhart has worked in private practice, and served as a deputy district attorney and adjunct faculty member at the University of Oregon.

###