



# PRESS RELEASE

## OREGON HOUSE DEMOCRATS

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### House Democrats Vote to Send Urgent Funds to Oregon Communities

*HB 5042 funds summer learning, wildfire recovery, and shelters*

In a late evening legislative floor session, Oregon's House Democrats voted to approve a bill that will invest hundreds of millions of dollars in students and communities impacted by the multiple crises of the last year.

The bill includes \$250 million in funding for Summer Learning and Child Care programs to aid students and families across the state.

“The Summer Learning and Childcare programs funded by this legislation will be a lifeline for both students and parents across Oregon,” says **Rep. Teresa Alonso Leon (D-Woodburn)**, chair of the House Education Committee. “The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted the school year for so many Oregon students, and we need to make sure that no student, particularly from our historically underserved communities, gets left behind.”

[House Bill 5042](#), which passed unanimously after weeks of delay caused by Republican obstruction, will now be considered by the Oregon Senate.

“Getting these bills passed will help Oregon families tremendously, especially when we consider the impact the pandemic has had on students' academic year,” says **House Majority Leader Barbara Smith Warner**. “But let's be clear, there are other critically important bills that Republicans are still holding up, and their pointless obstruction is only delaying relief to hurting Oregonians.”

HB 5042 also includes \$18 million in funds for emergency housing shelters (known as navigation centers) in impacted communities, and millions more in funding to communities harmed by last year's wildfires. Funding will go to:

- Eugene - \$5 million
- Salem - \$5 million

- Bend - \$2.5 million
- Medford - \$2.5 million
- McMinnville - \$1.5 million
- Roseburg - \$1.5 million

“This funding for emergency shelter in Bend is going to bring desperately needed relief to people in our community experiencing houselessness.” says **Rep. Jason Kropf (D-Bend)**. “This is a big step forward. As Bend and Oregon recovers from COVID and the wildfires there is a lot more that needs to get done this session to help our struggling families.”

“Salem-area families are in crisis. This funding will help provide real hope to so many in our community,” says **Rep. Paul Evans (D-Monmouth)**. “There’s light at the end of this long tunnel if we stick together and look after the needs of those hurting the most.”

“The COVID-19 pandemic has created the most unequal recession in modern U.S. history, and every day I see the effect that’s having in our community,” says **Rep. Julie Fahey (D-West Eugene, Junction City)**. “Far too many people have nowhere to turn, and our safety net has been stretched to its limits. The navigation center in Lane County will provide a place to stay as well as services to get folks some stability when they need it most.”

Additionally, the budget rebalance package local support to help wildfire-impacted communities across the state as they continue their recovery (see chart below for full list):

Local Supports for Wildfire Recovery	
--City of Detroit	\$272,329
--City of Gates	\$98,495
--Estacada pump station relocation	\$220,000
--Holiday fire recovery (Lane County)	\$451,000
--City of Talent	\$175,000
--City of Talent: community outreach, accessibility/translation	\$35,000
--Douglas County	\$450,000
--City of Phoenix	\$250,000
--Lincoln County	\$725,000
--Detroit/Idanha (fire truck)	\$350,000
--Marion County (sheriff's office overtime)	\$249,645
--Marion County (parks reconstruction)	\$177,312
--Jackson County: Manufactured housing navigation services	\$200,000
DLCD wildfire recovery planning	\$100,000
County emergency communications infrastructure	\$1.5 million

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