



PRESS RELEASE

OREGON HOUSE DEMOCRATS

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House Majority Leader Barbara Smith Warner Statement on Special Session

SALEM, Ore. – House Majority Leader Barbara Smith Warner (D-Portland) issued the following statement on Gov. Kate Brown’s call for a special session of the legislature next week:

“In these unprecedented times, it is more important than ever that we address the issues that are most significantly affecting Oregonians. The work of this special session is urgently needed, and the issues before us are deeply intertwined.

“The community uprisings across the country in the weeks since the murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and far too many others have made it clear that our systems of policing are in desperate need of transformation. Meanwhile, the COVID-19 pandemic is devastating Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities and families at much higher rates, many of whom are serving on the frontlines as essential workers keeping our state afloat. This is only one step in the right direction, but the measures we take up in this special session will help us on the path of rebuilding our state into a place where everyone can thrive.

“I want to thank Gov. Brown for her action today. I look forward to rejoining my colleagues – with appropriate social distancing and safety precautions in place - in special session next week. The work to rebuild a better Oregon can’t come soon enough.”

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