



PRESS RELEASE

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Rep. Alissa Keny-Guyer Announces She Will Not Seek Re-Election in 2020

Keny-Guyer is a long-time champion for affordable housing and supporting children and vulnerable populations

SALEM, Ore. – Rep. Alissa Keny-Guyer (D-Portland) announced today that she would not seek re-election in 2020. She has served House District 46, which includes portions of Northeast and Southeast Portland, since 2011.

“I have been deeply honored to serve my district and state, and especially to serve as chair of the House Committee on Human Services and Housing,” Rep. Keny-Guyer said. “I have loved working with my dedicated staff, colleagues, and advocates to address some of our state’s most pressing needs.”

“It has been heartbreaking to hear of the challenges many face. I am proud of the significant investments we have put into affordable housing over the last few years, as well as the first-in-the-country statewide tenant protections and land use policies to allow for more housing choices. But I also know we have a long way to go.”

Rep. Tawna Sanchez (D-Portland), who serves as the vice chair of the House Committee on Human Services and Housing, spoke about Rep. Keny-Guyer’s accomplishments over the years.

“Alissa has fought passionately for the most vulnerable Oregonians, including foster kids, seniors, communities of color, people with disabilities, and people with mental health and addictions,” Rep. Sanchez said. “She led the fights to protect kids from toxic chemicals and to ensure health care for all kids. I’ve enjoyed working with her to support vulnerable families with culturally appropriate wraparound care.”

House Majority Leader Barbara Smith Warner (D-Portland) said Rep. Keny-Guyer has been a champion for building a legislative caucus that looks more like Oregon.

“Since her appointment to the legislature nearly a decade ago, Alissa has kept us focused on equity and diversity in the legislature,” Majority Leader Smith Warner said. “Alissa is my friend, legislative district neighbor and frequent carpool companion. I will miss her passion and commitment to building a more just Oregon for all.”

Over Rep. Keny-Guyer's tenure in the legislature, she also served on the House Committees on Health Care, Early Childhood and Family Supports, Consumer Protection, Environment, and Revenue, as well as on the Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Services.

"Knowing how great the need is among vulnerable populations has made the decision to not seek re-election so difficult," Rep. Keny-Guyer added. "After challenges of the past year including beating cancer, this is a transition time to explore new ways of expressing my values in the world and spend more time with my family."

"Over the next year, I will work to ensure that the many issues I care about have a committed champion going forward. Though my legislative term will end early next year, my lifelong commitment to serving others will not. I am excited for the next chapter."

Rep. Keny-Guyer's term expires in January 2021.

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