

PRESS RELEASE HOUSE MAJORITY OFFICE SENATE MAJORITY OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 31, 2023

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Safer Oregon Agenda Threatened as Senate Republicans Refuse to Do Their Jobs

Bills that would address the state's fentanyl crisis and save lives at risk as Senate Republicans ignore Oregon voters

SALEM, Ore. - A series of policies and budgets that will make Oregon communities safer are at risk because of the anti-abortion, unconstitutional Republican walkout in the Senate.

In addition to the **\$4 Billion Public Safety and Accountability Budget** that would invest in public safety networks to support and protect Oregon families, the **Safer Oregon Agenda** – bills that would help to address crime and gun violence, protect children who are victims of sexual abuse, tackle fentanyl overdoses and save lives, and make sure law enforcement have the resources they need – hinges on Senate Republicans doing their jobs.

"Oregon communities, families, and small businesses were clear that public safety must be a top priority for us this session," **said** Representative Daniel

Nguyen (D-Lake Oswego & SW Portland), who's been a small business

owner for over 20 years. "When Senate Republicans refuse to respect our democracy and take a vote on critical legislation, Oregonians – many who have small businesses – are the ones who pay the price."

"Senate Republicans left before we finished the job. This is a real opportunity for bipartisan cooperation, but we won't have it if they don't come back in time to ensure every bill goes through the proper, public process," said <u>Senator James I.</u> <u>Manning Jr.</u> (D-Eugene), former police officer and veteran who served 24 years active duty in the U.S. Army.

Democrats and Republicans agree that the public deserves an open, transparent process for every bill and budget being considered by the Legislature. To fulfill that commitment, Senators need to do their jobs by debating and voting on every bill in full view of the public on the floor of the Senate.

The Safer Oregon policy bills at risk of not passing if Senate Republicans do not come back include:

- **HB 2395**: Bipartisan Opioid Harm Reduction Package breaks down barriers to lifesaving emergency treatments, like <u>naloxone</u> kits, by making them more available in public buildings, such as restaurants, grocery stores, police departments, and schools. When administered, naloxone can restore breathing and reverse an overdose by blocking the effects of opioids.
- **HB 2645**: Gives police and prosecutors the tools they need to prosecute drug dealers selling fentanyl.
- <u>HB 2676</u>: Makes much needed updates to the Crime Victims Compensation program, helping victims of violent crime with medical expenses and mental health services.
- **SB** 318: Providing funding for coordination between the state and local law enforcement to address the heighted organized retail theft rings.
- **HB 3443**: Increases protections for victims of bias crimes.
- **HB 2719**: Protects sexual assault victims who may have been exposed to HIV during their assault.
- <u>HB 2572</u>: Helps deter political violence and paramilitary activity regardless of ideology.
- **HB 2732**: Funds Children's Advocacy Centers in our community to help kids who have experienced physical or sexual abuse and work to prevent future abuse.
- **HB 2933**: Funds programs that provide advocacy and support services for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.
- **HB 2316**: Helps keep our streets safe and intoxicated drivers off of the road by expanding the offense of DUI to include being under the influence of any impairing drug.
- <u>HB 2328</u>: Makes sure our police and prosecutors have what they need to prosecute those who create child pornography and sexually abuse children.
- <u>HB 2005</u>: Gun Violence Prevention Bill -The balance between individual liberty and public safety, this bans ghost guns, or unserialized firearms that have become the gun of choice for criminals; raises the minimum age of purchase and possession to 21 for certain firearms with exemptions for

- military and law enforcement; and gives local jurisdictions the option to prohibit guns in public spaces.
- **SB 619**: Consumer Data Privacy Provides specific rights and regulations to consumers personal data for companies that provide products or services to Oregonians.

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