

OREGON HOUSE REPUBLICAN OFFICE

For Immediate Release Monday, May 21, 2018

Oregon House approves Governor Brown's election-year tax bill

Special session bill comes just weeks after Governor signed \$1 billion tax hike

Salem, Ore. - The Oregon House today voted to approve HB 4301, Governor Brown's special session tax bill. The bill, which comes on the heels of Governor Brown signing a \$1 billion tax increase on Oregon small businesses, was chastised by Republican lawmakers as an election-year political stunt.

"Just a few weeks ago, many of us were here imploring the governor NOT to sign SB 1528," said Representative E. Werner Reschke (R-Klamath Falls). "But the Governor did not listen. She signed it anyway and in doing so took away \$1 billion over the next five years that would have been a massive cash stimulus for Oregon's small businesses.

"So why are we here today? Because polling shows the Governor's move to usurp all that money from small businesses does not resonate well with Oregonians," Rep. Reschke continued. "This so called 'emergency' session is an election-year political stunt meant to benefit Governor Brown's re-election campaign."

House Republicans also pointed out that House Democrats had <u>previously voted to repeal</u> a tax policy very similar to HB 4301 during the 2017 legislative session. House Republican Leader Mike McLane (R-Powell Butte) expressed concern that even if Governor Brown signs HB 4301 into law, Democrats may simply vote to repeal it in the next legislative session.

"If the majority party votes to repeal this tax cut next year, this special session will go down as one of the greatest mockeries of our political system our state has ever seen," Leader McLane concluded.

Having passed the House, HB 4301 now heads to the Senate, where it is expected to be debated today.

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