



from the
HOUSE REPUBLICAN CAUCUS

For Immediate Release

Wednesday, September 25, 2019

Contact: Tayleranne Gillespie, 541-554-6631

tayleranne.gillespie@oregonlegislature.gov

Central Oregon Elected Officials Urge Governor Brown to Call Special Session

SALEM, Ore. – With only a few days left until the Death Penalty Bill, Senate Bill 1013, becomes retroactive, Governor Brown has still failed to call a special session. Central Oregon elected officials, Senator Tim Knopp (R-Bend), Representative Jack Zika (R-Redmond), Representative Cheri Helt (R- Bend), Representative Daniel Bonham (R-The Dalles), and Representative Vikki Breese-Iverson, (R-Prineville), together with Deschutes County District Attorney John Hummel, beseech Governor Brown to address the confusion caused by the passage of SB 1013.

They all share concerns about how this bill could inflict more mental trauma on the victims' families when they have to relive the atrocities committed by these perpetrators when coming face-to-face with them in court.

Together, they have released the following statement:

“Victims and their families are asking us to act, and we are ready and willing to participate in a Special Session. There is still time to address the confusion caused by the passage of Senate Bill 1013. We cannot fathom the anguish these families feel, knowing that the retroactive nature of SB 1013 could lead to the release of individuals who caused them such pain. Our court system and our fellow Oregonians deserve clarity on this critical issue. We must stand up for victims and their families, and for the integrity of the legislative system.”

SB1013 could affect cases like that of Randy Lee Guzek, who was convicted of killing a Terrebonne couple in 1987. He has lost four appeals, but with the current wording of SB1013, he would get a reduced sentence.

###