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Oregon state budget continues to grow without solving problems

SALEM, Ore. – House Republican Leader Christine Drahan (R-Canby) released the following statement in response to the state revenue forecast announced today which included news of a \$1.9 billion kicker for Oregon taxpayers next year:

“Despite a budget that has doubled in ten years, the state is worse off today for our students’ education, housing prices, and the safety of our communities. State agencies have fumbled distribution of unemployment checks and rent assistance to those in desperate need. The state has struggled to protect foster kids. The cost of higher education is a barrier for students and families.

The spending spree of the last decade has not solved Oregonians’ problems. Billions in new taxes did not make things better and the state can’t continue to operate this way. The lowest hospital bed per capita, bottom of the nation graduation rates, deteriorating safety for communities, and persistent homelessness are unacceptable.

While it is great for the state that we have an increase in tax revenues, it is not the same thing as real progress for Oregonians.”

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