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## **OREGON HOUSE REPUBLICAN CAUCUS**

<u>For Immediate Release</u> Date: April 16, 2021 Contact: Andrew Fromm Email: <u>andrew.fromm@oregonlegislature.gov</u>

## House Republican Leader calls on Speaker to ensure victim safety

**SALEM, Ore.** – House Republican Leader Christine Drazan (R-Canby) released the following statement regarding the action announced today by the House Committee on Conduct:

"Co-chair Fahey's rejection of the independent investigator's recommendation to temporarily remove Chair Witt from his committee shows a shameful disregard for the pressing need for interim safety measures to protect the victim. This is a sham process if the committee rejects the recommendations of the independent investigator with no basis for that rejection. This is not, in fact, a "tricky situation" as co-chair Fahey indicated. It is traumatizing a victim and protecting those in power—and it is completely unacceptable. The responsibility now falls to the Speaker to ensure that Chair Witt is removed, to ensure the safety of the victim.

Allowing the accused to choose the actions they will voluntarily take to protect their victim is not how this process should work."

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