OREGON HOUSE REPUBLICAN CAUCUS

For Immediate Release
Date: July 28, 2023
Contact: Claire Lynn
Email: Claire.Lynn@oregonlegislature.gov

House Republican Caucus Sends Letter to Governor Kotek Urging Immediate Review of All Commutations Granted by Former Governor

SALEM, OR – Today, the Oregon House Republican Caucus sent a letter to Governor Kotek urging the immediate review of all commutations granted by former Oregon Governor, Kate Brown. This letter comes just one week after U.S. Representatives Chavez-DeRemer (OR-05) and Bentz (OR-02) made a similar request.

House Republican lawmakers stated their appreciation for Governor Kotek’s action in ending the commutation of Jesse Lee Calhoun who is now a person of interest in the killing of at least four women in the Portland Metro area – but stated it is not enough.

“The unprecedented commutations undertaken by Governor Brown bypassed many of the existing safeguards that are in place for our current parole and probation system,” the lawmakers wrote. “House Republicans encourage you to do the right thing for Oregonians and give these commutations the due diligence they should have received in the first place.”

House Republicans concluded the letter by calling on Governor Kotek to follow through on the promises she made when taking office.

“This is a great opportunity for you to show leadership and the integrity of the office you have often stated you want to bring to your administration,” wrote the lawmakers.

A copy of the letter to Governor Kotek is attached to this press release.

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July 28, 2023

Via Electronic Mail
The Honorable Tina Kotek
Office of the Governor
900 Court Street, NE Suite 254
Salem, Oregon 97301

Governor Kotek:

Earlier this month, it was reported that multiple individuals who had received commutations from the previous governor have been charged with felony level crimes since their release, including Jesse Lee Calhoun, who is now a person of interest in the killing of at least four women in the Portland Metro area. While we appreciate your actions to end the commutation of Calhoun, the Oregon House Republican Caucus calls on you to review each and every one of the conditional commutations signed by your predecessor.

The unprecedented commutations undertaken by Governor Brown bypassed many of the existing safeguards that are in place for our current parole and probation system. House Republicans encourage you to do the right thing for Oregonians and give these commutations the due diligence they should have received in the first place. This is a great opportunity for you to show leadership and the integrity of the office you have often stated you want to bring to your administration.

We look forward to your prompt reply.

Sincerely,

Vikki Breese-Iverson
House Republican Leader

Kim Wallan
State Representative, District 6
Governor Tina Kotek  
July 25, 2023  
Re: Governor Brown Commutations

Virgile Osborne  
State Representative, District 2

Court Boice  
State Representative, District 1

Christine Goodwin  
State Representative, District 4

Lily Morgan  
State Representative, District 3

Boomer Wright  
State Representative, District 9

Jami Cate  
State Representative, District 11

Charlie Conrad  
State Representative, District 12

Shelly Boshart Davis  
State Representative, District 15

Rick Lewis  
State Representative, District 18

Ed Diehl  
State Representative, District 17

Tracy Cramer  
State Representative, District 22

Kevin Mannix  
State Representative, District 21

Address: 900 Court Street NW, H-395, Salem, OR 97301 – Phone: (503)986-1439
Governor Tina Kotek
July 25, 2023
Re: Governor Brown Commutations

Anna Scharf
State Representative, District 23

Cyrus Javadi
State Representative, District 32

James Hieb
State Representative, District 51

Emily McIntire
State Representative, District 56

Mark Owens
State Representative, District 60

Lucetta Elmer
State Representative, District 24

Brian Stout
State Representative, District 31

Jeff Helfrich
State Representative, District 52

E. Werner Reschke
State Representative, District 55

Greg Smith
State Representative, District 57

Bobby Levy
State Representative, District 58