

from the

OREGON HOUSE REPUBLICAN CAUCUS

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

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 <u>request</u>.

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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OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

House Republican Caucus

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,

Deh Breese Wirgn

Vikki Breese-Iverson House Republican Leader

Kim Wallon

Kim Wallan State Representative, District 6

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Virgle Osborne State Representative, District 2

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Christine Goodwin State Representative, District 4

Boomer Wright State Representative, District 9

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Charlie Conrad State Representative. District 12

Rick Lewis State Representative, District 18

Tracy Cramer State Representative, District 22

Court Boice State Representative, District 1

Lily Morgan State Representative, District 3

Jami Cate State Representative, District 11

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Shelly Boshart Davis State Representative, District 15

Ed Diehl State Representative, District 17

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Kevin Mannix State Representative, District 21

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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

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Lucetta Elmer State Representative, District 24

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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