



*From the*

## **HOUSE REPUBLICAN OFFICE**

### **For Immediate Release**

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### **House Republican Leader Statement on Special Session**

Salem, ORE. – Today, House Republican Leader Christine Drazan (R-Canby) released the following statement on Special Session:

“Oregon is \$2 billion short of paying the bills. This session must not ignore the urgent need to provide certainty for our state’s safety net programs, schools, community corrections and human services by balancing the budget.

The legislature has been called into a session next week, but we have yet to see any of the proposed bills. It has become increasingly clear that legislative leadership is willing to hand its authority to maintain a balanced budget and draft public policy to the governor. Even during a crisis this is an extraordinary lack of accountability. This looks to be a session that abandons legislative authority, along with transparency and access for the public during this veiled legislative process.

We shouldn’t squander the opportunity to allow for public engagement in providing certainty and a path forward for Oregonians. Rather than focusing on policy bills to put executive orders into statute, the serious budget deficit should be prioritized. The state must operate within a balanced budget. We should not sit back and let the spending stack up and hope that the federal government will bail Oregon out.”

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