



OREGON HOUSE REPUBLICAN OFFICE

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Real PERS reform will have to wait after House passes SB 1049 over stiff bipartisan opposition

Seven Democrats break ranks to join Republicans in vote

SALEM, Oregon – Republicans today stood up for public employees who have served their fellow Oregonians long and well. In bipartisan dissent, Republicans – and seven Democrats – voted against legislation that will cost public employees dearly without creating any real long-term relief from the burgeoning PERS debt. Senate Bill 1049 relies on refinancing the PERS debt at a time where true reform is needed. The bill passed 31 to 29.

Accounting tricks and political manipulation won't solve this crisis. There are real ways to reform PERS, but this is a half-measure that falls well short. Democrats avoided true reform while cutting the benefits of public employees across the state.

"The outcome of today's vote will make it tougher on public employees without benefitting all Oregonians. Refinancing the PERS debt will only add to the growing debacle. Republicans seek an effective solution that won't be settled on the backs of public employees," said House Republican Leader Carl Wilson (R-Grants Pass).

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