

OREGON HOUSE REPUBLICAN OFFICE

What They Are Saying

"Democratic lawmakers should put aside partisan considerations and act now to make government more transparent"

House Republicans' Ethics Reform Bills Receive Support From Across The State

The Register-Guard: "...prospects look dim to nonexistent for the other GOP ethics proposals. That's a mistake the governor and Democratic lawmakers should rectify before it's too late...Democrats have taken a lamentably partisan approach to ethics reform." ("Editorial: Don't bury GOP reforms," <u>The Register-Guard</u>, 6/10/15)

The Register-Guard: "The reluctance of Democrats to support GOP proposals may be due to Democratic resolve to clean up on their own a mess that was created by a governor of their own party – and to deprive Republicans of a chance to claim credit for helping to do so. But that's a short-sighted motivation, and one that invites speculation that Democrats are unwilling to make the full range of fixes necessary in the wake of the Kitzhaber-Hayes scandal." (Editorial: Make ethics reform bipartisan," <u>The Register-Guard</u>, 4/12/15)

The Mail Tribune: "Democrats should seize the opportunity to work with the House GOP caucus to incorporate the best elements of all the proposed bills and achieve public records reform that have been elusive in the past." ("Our View: All ethics reform bills should get a hearing," *Mail Tribune*, 3/9/15)

The Bend Bulletin: "Agencies should not be able to delay unnecessarily or set fees high to discourage records requests. They forget, apparently, that access to public records is not a gift bestowed by a generous public agency, but the right of the citizens of Oregon. HB 3505 makes that clear." ("Editorial: Oregonians deserve easy access to public record," *The Bend Bulletin*, 4/29/15)

The Herald & News: "State Rep. Julie Parrish, R-West Linn, has proposed legislation to remove the exemption during legislative sessions that legislators have from the public documents law...that's a good place to start." ("H&N View: People deserve better look at public records," <u>The Herald & News</u>, 4/7/15)

The Mail Tribune: "Brown's package of legislation is likely to get a warmer reception, but she is proposing not immediate reform...that's disappointing, and a needless delay...Democratic lawmakers should put aside partisan considerations and act now to make government more transparent." ("Our View: Don't wait on public records reform," *The Mail Tribune*, 4/29/15)

The Bend Bulletin: "The bill has received far too little attention, beyond Speaker Kotek's comment that Parrish "is the only one that has a lot of interest" in some of Parrish's ethics bills. She's wrong — news organizations, including this one, are interested, and the general public should be interested, as well." ("Editorial: A better approach to public records," *The Bend Bulletin*, 4/10/15)

The Register-Guard: "The Senate should approve HJR 31. By the time Oregonians vote on the resolution, more perspective will have been gained on the events that led to Kitzhaber's resignation...voters should be given a chance to decide whether impeachment, like an insurance policy,

is something Oregonians would hope they'll never need but might some day be grateful to have." ("Editorial: State may need power to impeach," *The Register-Guard*, 5/24/15)

The Bend Bulletin: "...the idea is far from a radical one. In fact, all 49 other states do have a method for removing top executives from office...impeachment should be used only rarely and under the most extreme circumstances...at the same time, being able to force the rare miscreant out of office is a tool worth having." ("Editorial: Legislature should have impeachment power," *The Bend Bulletin*, 5/21/15)

The Mail Tribune: "We see no reason that Oregon should not have an impeachment process, which is in essence a means for the state to protect itself from a public official who has gone off the rails. We suspect this measure would easily pass if it's put to the public." ("Our View: Impeachment should be an option," <u>The Mail Tribune</u>, 4/17/15)

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