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Legislature Appoints Special Joint Committee on Coronavirus Response

SALEM, Ore. – The Oregon Legislature will convene a Special Joint Committee on Coronavirus Response to make timely recommendations for legislative action as the state works to combat the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

The committee, which will do most of its work virtually to protect public health, will be charged with the following tasks:

- Identify actions to support short-term economic relief to low-income workers and small businesses. These actions could include wage supports, support for those not eligible for state programs (such as sick leave and unemployment insurance), protection from housing instability, and more.
- Monitor public health strategies and response for COVID-19 and consider additional statutory changes to assist with the public health emergency.
- Make timely budget and policy recommendations to the Legislature.

The following members have been appointed for this important work:

- Senator Arnie Roblan (D-Coos Bay), Co-Chair
- Rep. Paul Holvey (D-Eugene), Co-Chair

- Senator Brian Boquist (R-Dallas)
- Senator Tim Knopp (R-Bend)
- Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward (D-NW Portland/Beaverton)
- Senator Kathleen Taylor (D-Milwaukie)
- Rep. Greg Barreto (R-Cove)
- Rep. Janelle Bynum (D-Happy Valley)
- Rep. Paul Evans (D-Monmouth)
- Rep. Raquel Moore-Green (R-Salem)
- Rep. Andrea Salinas (D-Lake Oswego)
- Rep. Duane Stark (R-Grants Pass)

The time and location of the first committee meeting has yet to be determined.

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