



OFFICE OF THE HOUSE SPEAKER

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<http://www.oregonlegislature.gov/kotek>

NEWS RELEASE

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Statement by House Speaker Tina Kotek on Quarterly Economic and Revenue Forecast

“Oregon’s economic growth remains stable, and business activity is generally outperforming the rest of the country. Nonetheless, Oregon’s state budget is facing a shortfall of nearly \$2 billion – a structural deficit that has been a generation in the making.

“For over two decades, legislators have been fighting to get our schools back on track and maintain essential services despite an unstable, inadequate tax system. We have succeeded in containing costs through health care and public safety reforms, and we will continue looking for ways to improve efficiency and streamline services. But without new revenue, the impacts of our current budget deficit will hit people in every corner of the state with teacher layoffs, bigger class sizes, higher tuition costs, the loss of health insurance coverage, or other harmful impacts in their everyday lives.

“We need to grapple with these stark realities, while also working full force to find a better way forward.”

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