



Senator Deb Patterson

2024 Legislative Priorities

Advocating for Our Community

Cross-Sector Social Services Center

- This bill would provide \$6.28 million for a cross-sector social resource center in Salem.
- The project is a collaboration between the YMCA and 14 other community partners.
- This would be a place for high-need and at-risk families and individuals to connect with a range of coordinated support services, all in one location.

Addiction Treatment and Recovery Services

- Urgent action is needed to increase capacity for addiction treatment, recovery housing, and supportive services for people struggling with addiction.
- That is why I am advocating for funding to build a sobering center here in Salem, in partnership with Bridgeway Recovery Services.

Payment in Lieu of Taxes

- The City of Salem is facing a large budget shortfall. City revenues have failed to keep up with the costs of providing first response, public safety, and other services.
- As the state capital of Oregon, Salem is home to many government buildings that benefit from these services. This bill would direct the state to pay fees to help cover the costs of providing first response services for state-owned properties.

Health Care

Cognitive Assessment and Care Planning for Dementia

- This bill would add Medicaid coverage for comprehensive cognitive assessment and care planning for people under 65 who show signs of early onset dementia.
 - These services are currently covered under Medicare, but not Medicaid. Medicaid currently covers only a short assessment for dementia.
 - Early diagnosis and care planning is critical for better treatment coordination and care management.
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Consumer Protection

Family Financial Protection Act

- Current law does not provide enough protection for consumers against unfair or unlawful debt collection practices.
- Debt collectors do not have to verify they are going after the right person or the right amount before taking debt collection actions.
- This bill would provide protections for consumers to fight unfair debt proceedings and ensure families have enough in their bank accounts to pay for basic necessities while they recover from debt.

Climate

Updating Oregon's Emissions Goals

- Oregon's climate action goals were created in 2007, using the best science at the time. However, new science indicates those targets no longer makes sense.
- The scientific consensus is clear: we must limit the rise in warming to 1.5°C.
- This bill will modernize the state's emissions goals to reflect current science and international agreements.

COAL Act

- Coal is the dirtiest fossil fuel--it is a major contributor to climate change and creates harmful pollution.
- The value of coal is declining over time. Financial institutions are increasingly exiting from coal investments because of the poor financial outlook.
- This bill will end new investments in coal and phase out existing coal investments at Oregon State Treasury.
- Coal presents both environmental and financial risks. Ending coal investments aligns with the Treasury's fiduciary responsibility to protect Oregonians' retirement funds.

Arts and Culture

Funding Package for Oregon's Arts and Culture Organizations

- Allocates \$5.9 million to nonprofit arts and culture organizations across the state.
- Includes \$150,000 for the Salem Parks Foundation.
- Arts unify local communities, improve individual well-being, strengthen the economy, and drive tourism and revenue to local business.

Questions? Contact us at (503) 986-1710 or sen.debpatterson@oregonlegislature.gov