

Oregon's Legislative Black, Indigenous, & People of Color Caucus 2021 Legislative Agenda

Membership

Sen. Lew Frederick Sen. James I. Manning Jr. Rep. Teresa Alonso León Rep. Janelle Bynum
Rep. Mark Meek Rep. Andrea Salinas Rep. Tawna Sanchez
Sen. Kayse Jama Rep. Wlnsvey Campos Rep. Khanh Pham Rep. Ricki Ruiz



We envision an Oregon...

- 1 that is diverse, dynamic, just and equitable
- 2 where everyone has an equal opportunity to thrive
- 3 where our communities are self-sufficient and have full agency to meet our needs and afford the basics and more
- 4 where oppression and racial disparities are non-existent
- 5 where everyone lives full lives
- 6 where distributed and collective power is also a form of leadership

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Our Mission

To advance racial equity initiatives and eliminate systemic oppression and racism in Oregon. **We advance our mission by:**

- introducing and advancing policies that seek to eliminate racial disparities and remove systemic and institutional barriers that Black, Indigenous, communities of color face
- having a seat at the decision making tables, being the leaders in charge
- increasing political representation for people of color in all levels of government
- promoting civic engagement and participation
- creating and developing broad coalitions
- support system for members, staff, interns of color and allies that work at the legislature
- provide a safe space for members of color in the capitol
- celebrating and honoring our distinct lived experience
- supporting economic justice and building generational wealth
- asserting our own power, skills and talents to move our state forward

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Last Updated 2/4/2020

Top Ten Priorities

1. Police Accountability

Hold police officers accountable to the community for racist conduct and behaviors that disproportionately target BIPOC populations.

- HB 2928: Police Munitions
- HB 2934: Qualified Immunity
- HB 2936: Anti-Racist Background Check
- SB 621: Civilian Oversight Board
- SB 593: DPSST Changes

2. Criminal Justice Reform

Eliminate legalized slavery in Oregon's prison system; eliminate wealth transfers from our communities through the justice system.

- SB 620: Make probation fee collection requirement optional
- HJR 5: Incarcerated Workers Dignity Bill
- LC 1467: Cannabis Equity Act
- LC 2690: Oregon Sanctuary Promise

3. Economic Opportunity

Provide targeted support for BIPOC workers and BIPOC-owned small businesses who have been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

- HB 2588: Farmworker & Outdoor Worker Protections
- HB 2935: Crown Act
- LC 2849: Raising the Oregon Minimum Wage
- HB 2358: Farmworker Overtime Protections

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Top Ten Priorities Continued

4. Education

Remove student achievement barriers at all levels by enhancing school environments, reducing overtesting and prioritizing student voices.

- HB 2590: The Student Voice bill
- HB 2945: Exclusionary Discipline
- HB 2937: School Bias Crime
- SB 609: Task Force on Early Education Wrap Around Services and Learning Expectations
- LC 3519: Free menstrual products in education institutions

5. BIPOC Healthcare Access

Expand and invest to provide access to culturally sensitive, linguistically appropriate mental, behavioral, physical and telehealth BIPOC providers and acknowledge racism as a public health crisis.

- HB 2359: Health Care Interpretation Accountability Act
- HB 2361: Behavioral Health BIPOC Workforce Shortage
- HB 2760: Regional Health Equity Coalition expansion
- HB 2949: Mental Health Workforce Expansion

6. Housing and Homeownership

Expand options for building housing and attaining homeownership. Provide communities a voice in property development.

- HB 2372: Ridding Oregon of No Cause Evictions
- HB 2096: Agricultural Worker Housing Tax Credit
- LC 2303: Addressing racial disparities in homeownership
- SB 79: Down payment assistance for BIPOC families

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Top Ten Priorities Continued

7. Expand Access to Democracy

Ensure equitable access to the ballot and voting rights and ability to run for office.

- LC 2276: Campaign Finance Reform
- LC 2786: Universal Representation for Immigrant Oregonians
- HB 2366: Restore voting rights for incarcerated
- HB 2679: 17 year olds voting in the primary if they turn 18 by the general election.

8. Equitable, Welcoming, and Transparent Government

Make the Capitol more accessible to community, lobbyists, non-native English speakers and potential legislators.

- HB 2526: Rename Columbus Day to be Indigenous People's Day
- HB 3144: Legislator Pay
- HB 2167: Institutionalize Governor's Racial Justice Council
- HCR 11: Modify state song to reflect evolution of state
- LC 3513 - Creates an Office of Immigrant and Refugee Advancement

9. Environmental and Climate Justice

Ensure an equitable transition to a renewable economy as we fight the impacts of climate change and environmental racism.

- HB 2475: Discount utility rates for low-income households
- HB 2842: Health Homes weatherization program to expand access
- HB 2995: 100% Clean Energy for All

10. Invest in Equitable Social Services through Revenue Reform

Protect funding for needed services and supports for vulnerable communities by making our revenue system more equitable.

- HB 2505: Illumination of implicit bias in the Child Welfare system.
- HB 2839: Disconnection from CARES Act Tax Breaks
- HJR 10: Kicker Reform to Earned Income Tax Credit
- HB 2503/ SB 239- Expanding Childcare Affordability and Access

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Full List of Legislative Priorities

Senator Lew Frederick

Provide accountability to restore confidence of the work of police officers across Oregon. Reform the training and certification of officers; improve use of force protocols; modernize arbitration procedures; and support local accountability measures like those recently adopted by Portland voters.

Support equitable student success by reforming reliance on testing, ensuring social and emotional support and wraparound services for students impacted by COVID-19 and wildfires, and providing culturally inclusive curriculum.

Deconstruct Oregon's racist legacy by providing reparations to those impacted by systemic racism, curriculum development in cultural studies and the history of race in Oregon, and programs to provide culturally competency across public services around the state.

Senator James I. Manning Jr.

SB 420

Empowers local contracting boards and agencies to designate public contracts as community benefit contracts. Community benefits contracts will ensure that public projects provide workforce training through apprenticeships to gain skills in the construction trades and guarantee health coverage for those workers and their families.

SB 421

Directs the Oregon Department of Justice to maintain a statewide database of police officers who have had their certification suspended or revoked or have been subject of an investigation involving allegations of death or serious injury of an individual in custody, use of excessive force, discrimination based on a protected class, dishonesty, or commission of a crime while on duty.

SB 428

Continues the work of a task force to provide equitable, affordable, comprehensive, high quality, publicly funded health care to all Oregon residents.

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Legislative Priorities Continued

Representative Teresa Alonso León

HB 2590

Student Voice Bill: Establishes a Taskforce on Student Success for Underrepresented Students in Postsecondary and Higher Education, directs the taskforce to develop student success policy proposals focusing on increasing the likelihood of student success in post-secondary and higher education for students from populations that are underrepresented students and stakeholders.

HB 2588

Outdoor (Farmworker) Worker Safety Protections: Establishes a set of outdoor worker protections during times of unhealthy air quality, closing outdoor work activity during certain fire evacuation orders, allowing workers with underlying health conditions to stay home and providing compensation for those who are unable to work during unhealthy air quality or fire evacuations.

HB 2760

Expanding Regional Health Equity Coalitions (RHECs): Establishes a definition for Regional Health Equity Coalitions in statute, fully funds RHECs and lays the foundation to expand the RHEC program across the state.

Representative Janelle Bynum

HB 2937

To challenge discrimination in our schools, gives students the right to bring action against school districts and perpetrators and requires districts to allow student to transfer to another school in the district. Requires districts incidents of harassment, discrimination or intimidation to the state.

HB 2949

Works to correct structural inequities in the mental health care profession and inequitable accesses to care for underserved populations. Expands opportunities to enter the mental health profession and invests in access to care for BIPOC communities.

HB 2935

Prevents school districts from becoming members of voluntary organizations that administer interscholastic activities unless the organization prohibits race-based discrimination; clarifies meaning of race to include natural hair, hair texture, hair type and protective hairstyles for purposes of prohibited discrimination; clarifies that valid dress codes may not have disproportionate adverse impacts on members of a protected class.

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Legislative Priorities Continued

Representative Mark Meek

SB 79

Authorizes Housing and Community Services Department to provide grants, loans and technical assistance to organizations increasing homeownership program access to underserved communities, including persons of color, and increases funding for down payment assistance. Increases the match for Individual Development Accounts from for home buyers. Establishes implicit bias training for mortgage loan originators, real estate agents, and appraisers.

HB 2557

Establishes the COFA Dental Program to provide dental care to low-income citizens of Pacific Islands in Compact of Free Association who reside in Oregon and lack access to affordable dental coverage.

HB 2550

Directs real estate agents to withhold communications from a potential buyer to help the seller avoid selecting a buyer based on a buyer's race, religion, or sexual orientation as prohibited by the Fair Housing Act.

Representative Andrea Salinas

HB 2359

The Health Care Interpretation Act will set state standards for those who serve as language interpreters and for the providers that use these services. These standards will ensure that health care providers and interpretation services serve Oregonians with the right level of care for their language barrier needs.

LC 2276

Oregon needs to limit the amount of campaign contributions individuals and small donor political action committees can give to candidates in order to help level the playing field for our BIPOC communities. Independent expenditures and the donors responsible for them need to be more transparent and we must find a way to limit the overall costs of campaigns.

HB 2949

Oregon needs to reduce burnout, churn and turnover of the mental and behavioral health care workforce to stabilize access to care for patients seeking BIPOC providers. We need to make sure we have the right incentives in place for BIPOC students to afford graduate school training and to enter into an industry that currently does not pay their workforce on par with physical health.

HB 2593

Prohibits employers from permitting or requiring agricultural workers to work in excess of 40 hours in one workweek unless workers are compensated for overtime hours worked.

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Legislative Priorities Continued

Representative Tawna Sanchez

LC 2407

Creates the opportunity for cities and counties to operate a non-police mobile crisis response program using the CAHOOTS (Crisis Assistance Helping Out On The Streets) model. CAHOOTS is a community-based public safety system that relies on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques to respond to crises involving mental illness, houselessness, and addiction.

HB 2505

Directs the Governor's Child Foster Care Advisory Commission to establish a Child Welfare Equity Advisory Committee to advise the Commission and DHS regarding culturally appropriate child welfare services. The committee must represent historically underserved communities and take into consideration the geographic, ethnic, and gender diversity of the populations receiving child welfare services.

HB 2526

In recognition of the existence, history, and culture of Indigenous People and to honor the diverse history of this land, the state of Oregon will designate the second Monday of October of each year as Indigenous Peoples' Day.

Representative Khanh Pham

HB 2839

Disconnect Oregon from the Federal CARES Act tax breaks which overwhelmingly benefit the wealthy Oregonians at a time when we need to protect General Fund dollars for needed social safety net programs.

HB 2995

Requires utilities to get 100% of their energy from renewable sources by 2035, including strong labor standards and more community-based renewable energy projects.

HB 2475

Authorizes discount utility rates for low-income households. Funding for environmental justice organizations to represent frontline communities in Public Utility Commission proceedings.

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Legislative Priorities Continued

Senator Kayse Jama

SB 239

Streamlines Oregon's governance of child care programs by housing employment related day care (ERDC) with other child care and early learning programs, ensure affordability for parents by capping ERDC copays at no more than 7% of a family's income, allow parents to have flexibility in utilizing child care outside of working hours, and expand access to all children, regardless of documentation status.

LC 3513

Creates an office to oversee a set of statewide immigrant and refugee programs and services that closely coordinate immediate needs with long-term support for families. This bill would also require the office to disaggregate data and track progress on a granular level, reducing social, economic and health disparities for these populations.

HJR 5

Proposes amendment to Oregon Constitution to repeal provision requiring inmates in corrections institutions to engage in full-time work or on-the-job training.

Representative Wlnsvey Campos

HB 2372

Eliminates a landlord's ability to terminate residential tenancy without cause. Clarifies damages available to tenant for landlord's unlawful no-cause notice or fraudulent landlord-cause notice as: three months' rent and actual damages sustained by the tenant if the tenant surrenders possession as a direct result of the invalid notice.

HJR 10

Proposes amendment to Oregon Constitution to expand the Earned Income Tax Credit to qualified undocumented Oregonians.

HJR 5

Proposes amendment to Oregon Constitution to repeal provision requiring inmates in corrections institutions to engage in full-time work or on-the-job training.

LC 2849

Raises Oregon's minimum wage to \$17 an hour by 2023.

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Legislative Priorities Continued

Representative Ricki Ruiz

HB 2679 Permits person who will be 17 years old on date of primary election and 18 years old on date of general election to vote at primary election for candidates of major political party with which person is affiliated if major political party has adopted rule to this effect

LC 3519 Provides menstrual products in all public institutions of education to provide menstrual products in restrooms (including gender-neutral restrooms) for students at no cost. Addressing period poverty through providing menstrual products in school restrooms is a big step towards ensuring a safe, and comfortable learning environment for our students.

LC 2302 Addresses racial disparities in home ownership that were recommended in the Joint Task Force Addressing Racial Disparities in Home Ownership (JARDHO)

Representative Lawrence Spence*

*Rep. Lawrence-Spence has completed her term in office. BIPOC caucus members look forward to carrying her priorities in 2021.

HB 3112 The Oregon Cannabis Equity Act creates a path for Black, Indigenous, and Latinx ownership in the growing cannabis industry and invests in communities disproportionately impacted by overpolicing and cannabis criminalization.

HB 3144 This bill provides equal opportunity for Oregonians of all backgrounds and socioeconomic statuses to enter the legislature by anchoring the pay for legislators to the average salary of Oregonians.

HCR 5 This resolution declares the intent to develop a statewide strategy to shift our public safety system from crime and punishment to community wellbeing.