



2009 SESSION

LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS





Compiled by the Senate Majority Office

# 2009 SESSION ACCOMPLISHMENTS TABLE OF CONTENTS

1 Agenda & Checksheet

2 Education & Our Kids

Health Care Reform & Public Health

Job Creation, Transportation & Economic Development

5 Strong & Safe Communities

Working Families, Tax 6 Fairness, and Veterans

7 Consumer Protection

Environment, Land Use & Water Policy

Elections & GovernmentAccountability

10 Issue Briefs & Appendix







### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

# Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Education*

### SB 5520 & SB 5554 - Protecting schools in tough times

A K-12 budget that will leave the school year intact for Oregon children despite the worst economic recession facing the state in a generation. Through a combination of targeted cuts, stimulus dollars, state reserves, and new revenue, the budget will fund schools at \$6 billion for the next two years—\$5.8 billion in a direct appropriation and an additional \$200 million in reserves set aside for distribution in the second half of the biennium.

### HB 5054 - Free school breakfast for all low-income kids

Covers the cost of school breakfast for all low-income kids, including those currently paying a portion of the full price. Offering a free nutritious breakfast helps kids arrive in the classroom ready to learn.

### SB 5519 - Protecting Head Start

Maintains critical investments to Head Start, helping over 6,500 three and four year olds prepare for success in school.

### SB 3041 - Health literacy for Head Start parents

Creates a pilot program for up to six Head Start locations to implement a health literacy program to share information with parents about common ailments and preventative care for their children.

### SB 595 - Tuition waivers for survivors of veterans

Allows survivors of servicemen and servicewomen killed or who are 100 percent disabled in combat to apply for open seats in courses at Oregon's seven public universities and Oregon Health and Sciences University and take courses for free.

### SB 44 - Moving towards full-day kindergarten

Extends applicability of law that allows schools to charge tuition for supplemental kindergarten and took important steps takes providing tools for school districts to continue offering full-day kindergarten for Oregon school children.

### SB 484 - Year round school pilot program

Senate Bill 484 addresses the merits of an extended school year by requiring the Department of Education to establish a pilot program to encourage school districts to provide supplemental summer instruction.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

# Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Education (cont.)*

### HB 5054 - Physical education in schools

Appropriates money to the Department of Education for grants to school districts to provide additional physical education instruction.

# SB 443 - High quality professional development for our teachers

Helps educators access high quality professional development by creating a 'one stop shop' website to find opportunities to improve their skills and create a more rewarding learning experience for children.

### HB 2544 - "No Child Left Inside"

Creates the Oregon Environmental Literacy Task Force to create a plan that teaches students about environmental issues facing Oregon and the U.S.. The Task Force, also called the "No Child Left Inside" Task Force, is charged with encouraging healthy lifestyles by promoting outdoor experiences, and creating opportunities for teachers to improve their knowledge of environmental topics.

### **HB 2398 - Career Readiness Certificates**

Creates the Career Readiness Certificate program to certify workplace and college readiness skills, to help job seekers identify needed skills and to match workers with potential employers.

### HB 3117 - Career pathway programs

Ensures that community colleges and private vocational programs work together when colleges offer new career pathway programs to meet specific area employment needs.

### **HB 2011 - College tuition waivers for seniors**

Directs each state institution of higher education to waive tuition for any course audited by an Oregon resident 65 years of age or older when classroom space is available.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

# Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Protecting Our Vulnerable Kids*

### SB 630 - Disproportionality in child foster care study

Directs resources to study the reasons for and develop a plan to reduce the disproportionality of children of certain racial and ethnic backgrounds in the Oregon foster care system.

### SB 107 - Interstate compact for runaways

Enacts the Interstate Compact for Juvenile Offenders, allowing Oregon to work cooperatively with a number of states to get runaways back home to their families.

### SB 10 & HB 3471 - International adoption

Addresses concerns about international adoptions: SB 10 requires DHS to implement rules to align Oregon with internationally recognized standards for multi-state adoptions. HB 3471 strengthens oversight requirements for new guardians prior to placement of a child outside the U.S.

### HB 3273 - Keeping families together

HB 3273 allows the Department of Human Services child welfare offices to contract with domestic violence specialists who provide the in-depth services victims of domestic violence and their children's need.

### HB 3114 - Looking out for foster kids' health

Requires the Department of Human Services to develop procedures for children in foster care to receive an assessment from a mental health professional before being prescribed multiple psychotropic or anti-psychotic medications.

### HB 2144 - Wraparound initiative for troubled youth

Promotes coordination in the delivery of services to Oregon youth with behavioral issues, an approach based on nationally recognized models to help children and their parents navigate the complex system of services available.

### HB 2050 - Helping keep foster kids in family placements

Extends the time to establish a legal "caregiver relationship" between a juvenile and an unrelated foster parent from six to 12 months, giving more time to find an appropriate family placement.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

# Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Protecting Our Vulnerable Kids (cont.)*

### HB 2589 - Covering hearing aids for kids

Requires health insurers to provide up to \$4,000 in benefits every 4 years to cover hearing aid purchases and related medical visits for dependent children.

### HB 2187 - Background checks for youth home operators

Allows the Oregon Youth Authority to request fingerprints of a person applying to operate a youth offender foster home as well as adult members of that applicant's household in order to conduct a criminal record check.

### SB 106 - Tribal resources to reach at-risk youth

Allows the Oregon Youth Authority to provide funding to federally recognized Indian tribes in Oregon for services catering to at-risk juveniles who are Native American.

### Cracking down on parents who owe back child support

**HB 2272 -** Requires that every child support order include a medical support clause to make sure kids have their health care needs met.

**HB 2273** - Makes anyone who owes back child support and can afford to pay it at risk of having their driver's and occupational licenses suspended.

**HB 2274** - Allows the Department of Justice or a district attorney to request that the Department of Revenue collect past due child support from a parent's tax refund when that parent's child is incarcerated in a closed custody facility of the Oregon Youth Authority.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

# Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Keeping our Kids Safe*

### Keeping children safe in the classroom

**SB 123** - Helps stamp out child abuse and keep children safe in school by providing the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission access to DHS child abuse reports when complaints against licensed educators are involved. **SB 47 & SB 48** - Strengthens the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission by allowing it to remove student teachers from their positions if their records contain information that would make them ineligible to become licensed teachers, and by requiring them to revoke the teaching license of teachers that engage in sexual conduct with students.

### HB 2062 - Cracking down on sexual conduct in schools

Requires school boards to develop policies on reporting sexual conduct between school employees and students.

### SB 46 & SB 66 - Fingerprinting of school employees

Allows the Department of Education to require fingerprints from all new hires, potential employees, contractors or volunteers who will have unsupervised access to children or access to confidential information at school districts and private schools.

### HB 2063 - Mandatory reporters of child abuse

Adds employees of the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission directly involved in investigations or discipline by the commission to the list of persons required to report child abuse.

### HB 2449 - Strengthening 'Karly's Law'

Strengthens "Karly's Law" by allowing all health care providers, not just licensed physicians to help document suspicious injuries on a child. "Karly's Law" requires any person who observes that a child has suspicious physical injuries while investigating an allegation of abuse to immediately photograph the injuries.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

# Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List Keeping our Kids Safe (cont.)

### HB 2205 & HB 2206 - Closing child care provider loopholes

Ensures that children are cared for by a safe, qualified provider by prohibiting child care providers whose licenses are denied, suspended or revoked from continuing to care for children or operate a preschool. Also ensures that all types of childcare facilities are subject to the same penalties for violations.

### HB 2365 - Banning toy-like lighters

Keeps children safe and helps prevent fires by prohibiting novelty lighters that look like toys from being made or sold in Oregon.

### HB 2641 - Stopping inappropriate text messaging

Adds text messaging to the list of communication devices that can be used for online sexual corruption of a child, helping address the emerging problem of 'sexting.'

### HB 2599 - Promoting a safe learning environment

Requires school districts to develop and distribute to students and parents a policy prohibiting harassment, intimidation, bullying and cyberbullying.

### HB 2987 - Protecting kids in after-school programs

Ensures that community programs that provide free or low-cost alternatives to after school care for children are meeting the minimum safety standards of background checks.

### SB 444 - Cracking down on hazing

Prohibits student organizations that operate on elementary, secondary, college or university campuses from intentionally hazing potential members.

### **HB 5054 - East Multnomah County gang prevention**

Provides \$800,000 to help support the East Metro Gang Enforcement Team (EMGET). The EMGET investigates possible gang-related violence, provides expertise in gang issues, and collaborates with neighborhoods to identify issues and solve problems.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

# Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List Keeping our Kids Safe (cont.)

### SB 348 - Keeping student athletes safe

Ensures coaches receive annual training on recognizing concussion like symptoms and how to seek proper medical treatment. Prohibits coaches from allowing athletes to play if they are suspected of or have been diagnosed as having a concussion.

### SB 637 - Integrated pest management in schools

Requires schools to adopt an Integrated Pest Management system to reduce or eliminate the use of pesticides on school grounds and to prevent schoolchildren from being exposed to harmful chemicals.

### HB 2795 - School bus retrofitting

Helps keep kids safe from pollution by phasing in requirements that diesel engine buses either be retrofitted or replaced with 2007 or newer school buses by January 1, 2025.

### SB 227 - Discouraging underage drinking

Discourages adults from providing alcohol to minors by increasing the fine for doing so from \$350 to \$500 for the first offense.

### **HB 2013 - School Facilities Task Force**

Creates a School Facilities Task Force to inventory school facilities throughout the state and plan for upgrades or replacements to ensure schoolchildren have safe school buildings to attend.

### SB 373 - Child support payments & wage garnishment

Ensures that child support gets to those that need it the most – children – by making employers liable if they do not withhold the child support payments in a timely fashion from the parent's paycheck.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

# Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Affordable & Accessible Health Care*

# HB 2009 – Cost containment through reforming & modernizing health care

Puts Oregon on the path to meaningful health care reform by streamlining state health functions and implementing proven reforms to maximize efficiency in the delivery of state health programs and contain costs for all health care purchasers. Cost containment reforms include promoting electronic health records, developing an end-of-life-care registry, establishing evidence-based clinical guidelines, and planning for workforce needs.

# HB 2116 – Historic expansion of health coverage for state's most vulnerable

Expands access to quality affordable health care while leveraging \$2 billion in federal funding. HB 2116 will provide health coverage to 80,000 Oregon children (bringing the state to 95% coverage) and an additional 35,000 low-income adults through the Oregon Health Plan.

### SB 701 – Student loan help for nursing instructors

Creates a loan repayment program to help address the scarcity of nursing faculty in Oregon, the state's number one workforce need. The Nursing Faculty Loan Repayment Program will provide loan repayments on behalf of nurse educators who teach at nursing schools in Oregon and who have earned a master's or doctoral degree from an accredited nursing education program.

### SB 316 – Access to life-saving clinical trials

Expands access to life-saving medical treatments by requiring insurance companies to continue providing routine care to patients who participate in clinical trials.

### SB 24 – Promoting access to specialists in rural Oregon

Expands access to affordable health care services, particularly specialists, for rural Oregonians by allowing patients and physicians to be reimbursed for consultations through teleconferencing technology.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

# Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List **Affordable & Accessible Health Care (cont.)**

# HB 2535 – Helping low-income Oregonians access prescription drugs

Creates the Charitable Prescription Drug Program to allow Oregonians to donate their unused prescription drugs to uninsured and underinsured people who could not otherwise afford them.

### SB 381 - Coverage for victims of traumatic brain injury

Ensures that victims of traumatic brain injuries receive the medically necessary treatment they need through their insurance coverage.

### HB 3236 – Access to immunizations for Oregon kids

Expands access to immunizations for Oregon children by allowing certified pharmacists to administer vaccines to children 11 and older.

### SB 355 - Prescription drug monitoring

Creates a prescription drug monitoring program to help pharmacists and physicians improve patient safety and quality of care by allowing them to determine whether patients fill multiple prescriptions with multiple providers and/or at multiple pharmacy sites.

### HB 3418 – Emphasizing preventative care

Takes a first step towards encouraging proactive health care by requiring the Department of Human Services to conduct a study on moving toward implementing a reimbursement model in the Medicaid program that emphasizes preventative care.

### SB 37 - Full reimbursement for rural health clinics

Requires the Department of Human Services to ensure that rural health clinics receive full reimbursements within 45 days, allowing them to continue providing high quality care.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

### Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List **Public Health**

### SB 734 – Helping smokers kick the habit

Requires health insurers to provide payment, coverage, or reimbursement of at least \$500 yearly for tobacco use cessation programs for Oregonians who need help quitting tobacco.

### SB 188 – Promoting food safety

Gives additional tools to the Oregon Department of Agriculture to enforce high standards for food safety, including increasing penalty amounts for violations of state sanitation laws.

### HB 2794 – Preventing cervical cancer

Requires insurance companies to cover the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine for females between 11 and 26 years of age. HPV is the most common sexually transmitted infection in the United States, with approximately 20 million people currently infected, and is the main cause of cervical cancer.

### HB 2726 - Menu labeling at chain restaurants

Requires chain restaurants with more than 15 locations nationwide to provide detailed nutritional information on their menus and drive-through displays, including information about calories, fats, and sodium.

### SB 556 - Help for heart attack victims

Ensures certain public places have automated external defibrillators, or AEDs, on site and have trained staff who knows how to use them to assist people suffering from cardiac arrest.

### HB 3022 – Helping stop the spread of STDs

Makes it easier to stop the spread of sexually transmitted diseases by allowing physicians who diagnose patients with gonorrhea or chlamydia to prescribe antibiotic treatment for the patient and the patient's partners without an examination of said partners.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

# Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Public Health (cont.)*

### SB 528 - Phasing out field burning

Reduces field burning of grass seed and cereal grain crops in Multnomah, Washington, Clackamas, Marion, Polk, Yamhill, Linn, Benton, and Lane Counties. Open field burning is eliminated in 2010 with exceptions for burning on steep terrain and for certain grass seed species. Field burning is considered a public health risk, especially to the elderly and children.

### HB 2188 - Limiting minor's access to cigarettes

Prohibits the distribution of tobacco products from vending machines except when machines are located in a place off-limits to minors.

### HB 3450 - Preventing carbon monoxide poisoning

Requires landlords to install and maintain carbon monoxide detectors in rental units.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

# Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Job Creation*

### SB 338 - Go Oregon! Jobs stimulus program

A bonding package that provides over \$175 million for deferred maintenance and capital construction authority. These projects are creating thousands of employment opportunities for Oregonians in all 36 counties.

### HB 2116 & HB 2009 - Health care workforce

A historic expansion of health care coverage to 80,000 children and 35,000 low-income adults, expected to create an estimated 3,600 jobs in health care services.

### SB 5505 & SB 5506 - Capital construction bonding

A \$1.3 billion capital construction budget that will address infrastructure needs across the state, including at Oregon's regional universities, the Oregon Wireless Interoperability Network (OWIN), Military Department facilities across the state, and the Oregon State Hospital.

### HB 2001 - Historic jobs & transportation package

Keeps commuters and commerce moving by investing \$300 million in transportation systems across the state while creating 4,600 jobs each year for five years.

### HB 2436 - Housing opportunity & job creation

Significantly increases resources to address Oregon's affordable housing crisis and provides jobs for Oregon's construction sector.

### SB 621 & SB 863 - Incentives for film production

Creates incentives for film and television production in the state, potentially bringing in millions of dollars and creating thousands of jobs.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

# Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Transportation*

### HB 2001 - Historic jobs & transportation package

Keeps commuters and commerce moving by investing \$300 million in transportation systems across the state while creating 4,600 jobs each year for five years. The most environmentally progressive package in Oregon's history, HB 2001 contains several provisions that will help Oregon work toward statewide targets to reduce greenhouse gases.

### SB 34 - Expanding access to public transit

Allows communities to continue investing in their transit systems by authorizing Tri-Met and the Lane Transit District to increase the employer payroll tax for transit districts from seven-tenths to eight-tenths of one percent of wages paid, to be phased in over ten years.

### SB 894 - Opportunities for minority contractors

Recognizes the importance of increasing opportunities for women- and minorityowned businesses in public construction projects by requiring that the Oregon Department of Transportation use one-half of one percent of federal funds received, up to \$1.5 million, to increase diversity in highway construction.

### SB 170 - Rural economic development

Encourages economic development around rural airports by increasing the number of rural airports eligible to participate in the Department of Aviation's "through the fence" program from three to six.

### SB 546 & SB 124 - Motorcycle safety

Directs the Department of Transportation to include on driver license examinations at least two questions pertaining to practices necessary for driving around motorcyclists and increases the penalty for operating a motorcycle without a motorcycle endorsement.

### HB 2040 - Keeping roads safe for emergency vehicles

Expands the offense of failure to maintain a safe distance from emergency vehicles or ambulances to include roadside assistance vehicles and tow vehicles.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

# Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Business & Economic Development*

### HB 2001 - Historic jobs and transportation package

Helps keep commuters and commerce moving by investing \$300 million in transportation systems across the state while creating 4,600 jobs each year for five years. Some of the biggest projects include the Sunrise Corridor improvements, the Newberg-Dundee bypass, an extra lane on Highway 26 from 185th to Cornell, improvements to Highway 62 in Southern Oregon, the Sellwood Bridge in Portland and the Beltline system improvements in Lane County. In addition to money received by cities and counties, the 23 projects in the Eastern Oregon region amount to over \$80 million for that region of the state.

### SB 621 & SB 863 - Incentives for film production

Creates incentives for film and television production in the state, potentially bringing in millions of dollars and creating thousands of jobs.

### HB 3300 - Green job training and growth

Directs the Oregon Workforce Investment Board and the Economic and Community Development Department to develop a Green Jobs Growth Initiative for creating and sustaining family-wage green jobs in Oregon.

### HB 2739 - Rights for dealership owners

Provides rights to automobile dealerships when a dealership agreement has been terminated as part of a bankruptcy or restructuring by an automobile manufacturer.

### **HJR 43 - Small Business Bill of Rights**

Recognizes the importance of Oregon small businesses to Oregon's economy and requires that Oregon small businesses, as stakeholders and key contributors to the state's economy, be taken into account when considering and enacting legislation.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

# Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List **Business & Economic Development (cont.)**

### SB 170 - Rural economic development

Encourages economic development around rural airports by increasing the number of rural airports eligible to participate in the Department of Aviation's "through the fence" program from three to six.

### **HB 2475 - Promoting commerce at Oregon ports**

Extends the cargo container property tax exemption to June 30, 2014 for those containers principally used for the transportation of cargo by vessels in trade and ocean commerce.

### HB 3112 - Supporting Oregon's logging industry

Extends the exemption from property taxation for environmentally sensitive logging equipment to 2018 and redefines environmentally sensitive logging equipment to be that which was originally manufactured after 1992.

### HB 2904 - Helping Oregon's nursery industry

Clarifies that hoop houses are not permanent structures and therefore not subject to property taxation. Without this legislation, nursery owners would have been exposed to an additional tax burden.

# HB 2434 - Protecting commercial buildings from late lawsuits

Helps the commercial construction industry by reducing the time frame for which a lawsuit can be brought based on the construction, alteration or repair of the large commercial structure from 10 years to 6 years.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

# Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List **Seniors & People with Disabilities**

### SB 5529 - Bolstering Oregon Project Independence

Increases funding for Oregon Project Independence, protecting a program that provides in-home and community-based care at a far lower cost than would be otherwise required in a nursing home or residential care facility.

### **HB 5054 - Transit access for seniors**

Funds public transit options for seniors and people with disabilities to make sure they have an equal opportunity to access transportation systems.

### HB 2138 - Rights for persons in nursing homes

Set certain rights for residents of continuing care communities, including the establishment of a resident council and designation of a resident representative to the community governing board.

### SB 287 - Shutting down facilities that abuse patients

Protects vulnerable adults in residential treatment facilities and adult foster care homes by allowing the Department of Human Services to deny, suspend, revoke or refuse to renew the license of a facility that falls out of compliance.

### SB 238 - Protecting rights of seniors in need of guardian

Sets forth a process and procedure for the appointment of a guardian or conservator for persons who are traveling away from home and in need of a guardian or conservator.

### HB 2442 - Sharing information about the risk of abuse

Requires that all residents of a residential care facility be notified when the Department of Human Services substantiates an allegation of abuse and standardizes investigations of abuse.

### HB 2137 - Justice and safety for vulnerable persons

Allows state agencies to share important information, like health and financial information, concerning elderly or disabled individuals with the courts in order to help protect vulnerable persons when there is a serious or imminent threat to their well being.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

# Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Public Safety*

### SB 570 - Cracking down on meth-related crime

Increases penalties and creates significant obstacles to persons who have long used the sale of stolen scrap metal to finance their drug habits.

### HB 3508 - Keeping troopers on patrol

Maintained 24/7 coverage by Oregon State Troopers on Oregon's major highways.

### HB 2426 - Tougher penalties for drunk drivers

Increases fines for individuals who are caught driving impaired with a Blood Alcohol Content of .15 or greater.

# SB 728 - Reclassifying meth as a more dangerous drug & increasing penalties for delivery

Reclassifies methamphetamine as a Schedule 1 controlled substance, which is considered to have a higher tendency for abuse and has no accepted medical use. SB 728 also increases the penalty for manufacturing or delivering a Schedule IV controlled substance, like Xanax, Klonopin, Valium, or Ambien, if the substance plays a substantial role in causing a death from six months imprisonment and a \$2500 fine to five years imprisonment and a \$125,000 fine.

### HB 2870 - Keeping dangerous drivers off the road

Permanently revokes driver's license of those that commit aggravated vehicular homicide, criminally negligent homicide with a vehicle, or manslaughter in the first and second degree involving a motor vehicle.

### **HB 2427 - Additional tools for fighting DUIs**

Provides law enforcement officers additional tools for stopping people from driving while intoxicated by requiring them to consent to a blood or urine test. When a person is stopped and suspected of being intoxicated, they can be charged with a fine for refusing to take a breath test, however, refusal to submit to a blood or urine test is not included under the current law.

### HB 3505 - Crimes against pregnant women

Requires person who is at least 15 years of age and convicted of murdering a pregnant victim, where person knew the victim was pregnant, be sentenced to life imprisonment without possibility of release or parole.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

# Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Victim's Rights*

### HB 3263 - Statute of limitations on DNA evidence

Extends the statute of limitations indefinitely for certain crimes, such as rape, in cases where a DNA sample was taken at the time of the offense and the offender is identified on the basis of that sample at a later point in time.

### SB 218 - Compensation for victims of heinous crimes

Extends the time frame for benefits and the compensation level for victims of serious crimes, such as murder or rape. The time frame and compensation level that is currently available for victims of serious crimes may not be adequate for victims to participate in the criminal process or be able to get the guidance and counseling they need.

### SB 839 - Protecting victims of human trafficking

Protects victims of human trafficking by allowing them to participate in the Address Confidentiality Program that is currently available to victims of domestic violence, sexual abuse and stalking.

### HB 2972 - Sex offender reporting burden of proof

Protects victims of sexual abuse from having to appear in court and come face to face with their abuser when the offender is seeking relief from sex offender reporting requirements. The bill requires the offender to prove that the victim's testimony is necessary and will be favorable towards the offender.

### HB 2874 - Giving victims a speedy trial

Grants victims the same right to a speedy trial as defendants currently have. This will give victims a voice in the pre-trial process, acknowledging the mental and emotional strain that a prolonged pre-trial wait can cause.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

# Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Victim's Rights (cont.)*

### HB 2343 - Protecting all rape victims

Asserts that in rape cases involving drugs and alcohol, no means no, regardless of how the victim became inebriated, by focusing solely on the victim's ability to consent to sexual activity.

### HB 2827 - Rights for victims of child abuse

Extends the statute of limitations on child abuse to allow victims to come forward and bring suit against their attacker until they are 40 years old, or within 5 years of discovering the connection between their injury and the abuse, whichever is longer.

### SB 928 - Protecting victims of domestic violence at work

Employers must make reasonable safety accommodations for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking, such as moving the victim's desk away from the window, changing their phone number, or allowing them to take unpaid leave. An employer may not refuse to hire or retaliate against an individual because the individual is a victim of domestic violence.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

# Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Housing*

### SB 628 - Foreclosure assistance

Creates the opportunity for homeowners to have a conversation with their lender to determine whether their loan can be refinanced prior to facing foreclosure and funds additional housing counselors to help homeowners through the process.

### HB 2436 - Housing opportunity & job creation

Significantly increases resources to address Oregon's affordable housing crisis and provides jobs for Oregon's construction sector.

### HB 3004 - Helping Oregonians with 80/20 loans

Protects homeowners by preventing lenders or their affiliates from pursuing further action against a second mortgage once the home has already been foreclosed and sold.

### HB 2188 - Truth in lending

Prevents a mortgage banker, mortgage broker or loan originator from making a negative amortization loan without evaluating and verifying the borrower's ability to repay the loan. Also, requires mortgage brokers that advertise in a language other than English to provide certain disclosures in the language used in advertising.

### HB 2258 - Homeownership for rural Oregonians

Allows more hard working Oregonians to build financial assets, like home ownership, through the Individual Development Account Program by broadening the eligibility criteria to level the playing field for rural Oregonians.

### Looking out for tenants' rights

**SB 952:** Provides a number of protections for tenants of foreclosed property, giving renters ample warning if their home is in jeopardy.

**HB 2613:** Prohibits a landlord from charging tenants more for utilities or services than utilities or service providers charge landlord.

**HB 2614:** Requires a landlord of a rental dwelling unit located in flood plain to notify the tenant that their unit is at risk of flooding.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

# Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Working Families*

### SB 462 - Expanding eligibility for unemployment benefits

Changes the formula for calculating unemployment benefits, allowing workers to count their most recent work experience when determining eligibility for unemployment insurance. This change allows the state to access millions more in federal unemployment funds available through the federal stimulus package.

### HB 2203 - Extending benefits to out-of-work Oregonians

Extends unemployment insurance benefits to individuals who have exhausted their federal Emergency Unemployment Compensation benefits. This bill helps more than 7,000 Oregonians who are dangerously close to losing their benefits, leaving them with few resources to pay rent and buy groceries.

# HB 3140 - Expanding Work Share Program for employers and their workers

HB 3140 is a win for struggling businesses and their employees. It prevents layoffs and keeps workers in their jobs earning paychecks by doubling the period of time that employers and workers can take advantage of the state's Work Share program from 26 to 52 weeks. Work Share gives qualified businesses an alternative to laying-off employees by allowing employers to reduce weekly hours of work and gives eligible employees a percentage of their unemployment insurance benefits to compensate for the reduction in wages from lost hours.

### HB 2433 - Health care benefits for laid off workers

Thousands of workers who have been let go by small businesses will get major help keeping health insurance benefits with House Bill 2433. Currently, the federal government picks up nearly two-thirds of the cost of continuing health insurance for larger employers. With this bill, the state will provide the same 65 percent subsidy to people who were employed by businesses with less than twenty employees.

### **HB 3162 - Protecting Whistleblowers**

Prohibits an employer from discriminating or retaliating against an employee who reports in good faith something they believe to be a violation of law.

### SB 519 - Worker Freedom Act

Grants employees the right to leave or not attend a meeting about politics, religion or union organizing without fear of discipline or retaliation.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

# Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Working Families (cont.)*

# SB 110 - Improving survivor benefits for on-the-job fatalities

Increases benefits provided to the families of Oregon workers killed or permanently disabled on the job.

### HB 2258 - Asset building for low-income Oregonians

Individual Savings Accounts (IDAs) are matched savings accounts for low income families that provide incentives to save for college, start a small business, or buy a home. HB 2258 changes eligibility criteria to allow more Oregonians to build these financial assets.

### HB 3384 - TANF eligibility for students

Current law allows up to one percent of Temporary Assistance for Need Families (TANF) recipients to go to school full -time. If the total number of TANF recipients declines, recipients already enrolled in school could lose benefits. HB 3384 protects TANF recipients who are enrolled in school as an allowable work activity from losing benefits simply because the overall caseload decline.

### HB 2907 - Prevailing wage for publicly funded projects

Prohibits a public agency from entering into a contract with another state which allows the contractor to pay less than Oregon's prevailing wage rate.

### HB 2970 - Earned Income Tax Credit outreach

Requires the director of the Housing and Community Services Department to convene a work group with the mission of expanding the number of eligible low-income Oregonians who claim the Earned Income Tax Credit.

### HB 3300 - Green jobs workforce

Directs the Oregon Workforce Investment Board and the Economic and Community Development Department to develop a Green Jobs Growth Initiative for creating and sustaining family-wage green jobs in Oregon.

### HB 3483 - Helping distressed workers get a leg up

Continues unemployment benefits for 3,500 Oregonians who have been laid off from low-paying jobs (110% of minimum wage or less) and who enroll in training programs for high-demand occupations.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

### Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Tax Fairness*

### HB 3405 - Asking big corporations to pay their fair share

Raises the corporate minimum tax from \$10 to \$150 and, for the next two years, increases the corporate income tax rate on profitable corporations to 7.9% on net income over \$250,000. That rate drops to 7.6% in 2011-2012. Starting in 2013 only net income over \$10 million will be taxed at the 7.6% rate. These changes will bring greater stability and fairness to Oregon's volatile revenue structure.

### **HB 2073 - Rainy Day Fund deposits**

Directs the revenue collected from the higher tax rate on corporate profits over \$10 million per year into the Rainy Day Fund – a savings account that helps keep schools open and protects vital services when revenue plummets.

### HB 2649 - Tax fairness for all Oregonians

Protects Oregonians earning less than \$125,000/\$250,000 (single/joint filers) from any increase in income taxes while asking the highest income earners to pitch in a little more to protect vital state services. This bill also gives additional protection to unemployed workers by not taxing the first \$2,400 of unemployment compensation for the 2009 tax year.

### **HB 2067 - Sunset of tax credits**

Establishes a uniform treatment of most income and corporate excise tax credits by assigning each credit one of three sunset dates and ensures ongoing continuity by creating a default sunset date for new tax credits of six years after the credit is first effective. Tax credits cost the state hundreds of millions of dollars each year.

#### SB 690 - Crackdown on tax cheats

Allows the Department of Revenue to disclose taxpayer information to local law enforcement agencies when taxpayers are delinquent or have refused to pay any tax and have not filed an appeal with the Oregon Tax Court.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

### Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Tax Fairness (cont.)*

### SB 880 - Tax Amnesty

Establishes a personal, corporate and inheritance tax amnesty to help taxpayers who have fallen behind settle their accounts with the state. To maximize public awareness of the amnesty opportunity, SB 880 requires creation of an outreach and media campaign.

### HB 2472 - BETC Reform

Implements changes in the Business Energy Tax Credit program to demand more accountability and lower costs to the state. Leaves in place a robust program to grow Oregon's renewable energy sector and adds a credit for companies that build electric cars.

### **HB 2815 - Interagency Compliance Network**

Establishes the Interagency Compliance Network to improve Oregon's ability to enforce tax laws and ensure that employers paying their employees in cash pay the same taxes as all other employers.

### HB 3082 - Cracking down on tax delinquency

Directs the Department of Revenue to implement a pilot project that requires people with occupational licenses to demonstrate compliance with personal income tax laws, corporate income or excise tax laws, or tobacco tax laws.

### HB 2157 - Protecting due process rights of taxpayers

Prohibits the Department of Revenue from applying a new administrative rule that would change any particular of a tax return or report (such as income, expense, deduction or credit) if the return or report was timely filed and the particulars were consistent with administrative rules in effect at that time.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

### Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Veterans*

### SB 479 - Contracting preference for veterans

Authorizes contracting agencies subject to the Public Contracting Code to give preference in awarding public contracts to disabled veterans and prohibits discrimination against subcontractors employing disabled veterans.

### SB 700 - Task Force on Veterans' Reintegration

Establishes a nine-member task force to develop and design continuing regional programs to help returning soldiers adjust to civilian life.

### HB 2178 - Campus Veterans' Service Officer Program

Creates the Campus Veterans' Service Officer Program in the Department of Veterans' Affairs to help veterans enrolled at Oregon's public colleges and universities take advantage of the GI Bill.

### HB 2744 - Family leave for military spouses

Military husbands and wives will be allowed to take time off from work when their spouses are home from or preparing for service abroad. The bill provides for 14 days of unpaid leave if the spouse works for an employer with more than 25 employees.

# HB 2303 - Cracking down on debt collectors who take advantage of deployed troops

Reinforces the protection provided by the federal Service Member's Civil Relief Act of 2003 (SCRA). The SCRA provides a wide range of protections for active service members against outstanding credit card debt, mortgage payments, pending trials, and taxes. Currently, it is not uncommon for deployed troops and their families to experience harassment by debt collectors.

### HB 3104 - Website outreach on veterans' services

Requires the Department of Veterans Affairs to establish a website that allows veterans to enter contact information and request information about benefits and services. HB 3104 was prompted by task force findings that substantial amounts of federal aid are consistently underutilized because of a systemic failure of state, regional, and local public agencies to inquire about a person's veteran status.

### **LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS**

# Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Veterans (cont.)*

### HB 3256 - Prohibits employment discrimination

Provides that it is an unlawful employment practice for an employer to discriminate against a person because of a person's uniformed service status. Discrimination related to military service is currently not a protected area.

### HB 3020 - Looking out for disabled vets & their spouses

Makes knowingly taking advantage of a customer who is a disabled veteran, service member, or their spouse an unconscionable tactic and an unlawful trade practice, under the Unlawful Trade Practices Act.

### HB 2571 - In-state tuition for all U.S. veterans

Awards in-state tuition at Oregon's public universities and colleges to all qualified veterans who are honorably discharged. The bill ensures that all U.S. veterans attending Oregon schools can pay the entire cost of tuition with funds from the new federal Post-9/11 GI Bill.

### SB 595 - Tuition waivers for survivors of veterans

Allows survivors of servicemen and servicewomen who are killed or 100 percent disabled in combat to apply for open seats in courses at Oregon's seven public universities and Oregon Health and Sciences University and take courses for free.

### HB 2510 - Hiring priority for veterans

Guarantees all of Oregon's veterans a lifetime hiring priority for public sector competitive merit-based recruitment positions, eliminating the previous ten year limit.

### HJR 7 - Extending home loan benefits to Oregon Guard and Reservists

A resolution to be referred to Oregon voters that aligns the ORVET home loan program with the federal Veterans' Affairs home loan program. House Joint Resolution 7 broadens the eligible pool of veterans that are qualified to receive ORVET to include Oregon National Guard and Reserve members.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

# Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Veterans (cont.)*

### SB 98 - Task Force on Veterans' Transportation needs

Creates the Veterans' Transportation Task Force, charged with exploring obstacles and recommending solutions to the issues veterans face in accessing health care services.

### HB 2718 - Task Force on Women Veterans' Health

Creates an eight-member Task Force on Women Veterans' Health Care to study the health care needs of female vets including the identification and treatment of trauma, mental health, and substance abuse.

#### **Senate Joint Memorials:**

- **SJM 1 -** Urges Congress to allow Oregon veterans to obtain state home loans at any time after veterans separate from service.
- **SJM 2 -** Urges Congress to enact legislation creating a statewide transportation system for veterans to access medical care.
- **SJM 3** Urges Congress to enact legislation providing complete health care for honorably discharged veterans.

#### **House Joint Memorials:**

- **HJM 2** Urges Congress to enact legislation to help veterans find employment.
- **HJM 3** Urges Congress to increase eligibility and funds for fee-basis payments for veterans' health care.
- **HJM 4 -** Urges Congress to establish "90 day soft-landing" program for coordinated transition from active duty to drill status for National Guard or Reservists.
- **HJM 12** -Urges Congress to enact differential transportation reimbursement for veterans living in states with significant remote and/or rural areas.
- **HJM 21 -** Urges Congress to change funding for veterans' health care from discretionary to permanent to ensure that all medical needs are met.

### **HB 2726 - Military Family Appreciation Day**

Designates May 8th of each year as Military Family Appreciation Day.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

### Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Consumer Protection*

### SB 328 - Freedom from unlawful debt collection

Gives the Attorney General authority to pursue legal action against debt collectors who use unlawful practices such as threatening arrest, using obscene language, or attempting to collect interest or fees known to be in excess of the actual debt owed.

### SB 952 - Looking out for tenants' rights

Provides a number of protections for tenants of foreclosed property, including giving renters warning if the home they are renting or leasing is in jeopardy of being foreclosed on.

### SB 731 - Preventing garnishment of basic living expenses

Protects Oregon's most vulnerable by preventing the garnishment of certain funds, such as veterans or social security benefits, that people depend on for basic needs, like food and shelter.

### SB 515 - Updating Oregon's Lemon Law

Oregonians who purchase automobiles that turn out to be 'lemons' will have twice the time, 24 months or 24,000 miles, to notify a manufacturer that a new vehicle does not conform to its warranty.

### SB 377 - Helping Oregonians find lower insurance rates

Requires insurers to re-rate some insurance policies at the request of a policy holder. Insurers will be prohibited from raising a consumer's premium based on re-rating information. Currently, insurers can raise rates based on the re-rating information, potentially discouraging consumers from requesting a new quote.

### SB 973 - Stranger Originated Life Insurance

Protects Oregon seniors by prohibiting an investment scheme known as strangeroriginated life insurance or 'STOLI.' STOLI occurs when third party investors convince seniors to purchase additional life insurance for the purpose of selling or transferring the policy to investors later. Seniors are often coached to misrepresent their health, finances and the intent of the arrangement.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

### Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Consumer Protection (cont.)*

### SB 284 - Increasing the statute of ultimate repose

Keeps courtroom doors open for consumers harmed by dangerously defective products that are greater than 8 years old. SB 284 increases the statute of ultimate repose – length of time a manufacturer can be held liable – for product liability actions from its current limit of 8 years to 10 years, or to the limit set by the state that the product was manufactured in.

### SB 311 - Public entity liability

Raises caps on tort claims brought against the state and local governments, increasing compensation limits under the Oregon Tort Claims Act.

### HB 2191 - Reining in debt settlement companies

Addresses problems raised by the proliferation of debt management providers in the state – some of which do not have the consumer's best interest at heart. HB 2191 requires that consumers be provided with specified disclosures and written contracts, including a three-day right of cancellation. The bill also prohibits misleading advertising.

### SB 114 - Discrediting diploma mill degrees

Prohibits a person who receives a degree from a diploma mill from representing themselves as having a legitimate academic degree.

### HB 3004 - Relief for Oregonians with 80/20 loans

Prevents lenders or their affiliates from pursuing further action against a second mortgage once the home has already been foreclosed and sold.

### HB 2578 - Cracking down on predatory towers

Requires a tower to contact the parking lot owner before towing a vehicle and allows the vehicle owner to move their vehicle without fees beyond the initial hookup fees. The bill also requires that parking rules be clearly posted by a landlord.

### HB 2911 - Storage facility abandonment

Clarifies that the contents of a storage facility can be held against a lien, but only to cover the amount owed. The remaining value will be held by the Department of State Lands if an occupant does not claim the balance within two years.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

### Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Consumer Protection (cont.)*

### HB 2377 - Hands-free cell phone requirement for drivers

Oregon will join six states in prohibiting the use of a hand-held cellular telephone while driving, keeping roads safer for drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists. Exceptions are provided for public safety and emergency personnel.

### HB 2268 - Requiring full disclosure of car repair costs

Ensures that a cost estimate is provided before starting auto work on a job that is expected to cost more than \$200.

### HB 2673 - Ticket rigging and gouging

Provides fairness to patrons of concerts and events in Oregon by prohibiting the use of computer software designed to circumvent the equitable distribution of admission tickets for entertainment events.

# HB 2371 - Protecting private information collected by ID scanning

Prohibits, with certain exceptions, a business from swiping an individual's driver license or identification card and storing, sharing or selling the information that was electronically retrieved.

### HB 2360 - Preventing identity theft

Allows that only the last four digits of a person's Social Security number need to be provided in certain trust-related proceedings that could be made public.

### HB 2188 - Language barriers in home loans

Requires a mortgage banker, broker or loan originator that advertises, solicits, or conducts business in a language other than English to provide certain disclosures in the language used in the advertisement, solicitation, or related transaction.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

### Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Environment*

#### HB 2186 - Low Carbon Fuel Standard

Directs the Environmental Quality Commission to adopt a Low Carbon Fuel Standard to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 10 percent below 2010 levels by the year 2020.

### SB 76 - Removal of Klamath Dams, smart water use

SB 76 provides the financing mechanism for decommissioning the Klamath River Dams. With the removal of the dams and the restoration of full natural Klamath River fish runs, the project will be the largest watershed recovery ever completed in the United States and will restore one of the major salmon runs on the West Coast.

### SB 631 - Phosphorus free waterways

Requires automatic dish washer detergent sold in Oregon to be phosphorous free. Phosphorus promotes the growth of weeds and algae and can degrade water quality.

### SB 596 - Ban on potentially carcinogenic chemicals

Bans a potential carcinogen (DECA-BDE) from being used as a flame retardant in common household products such as mattresses, and encourages use of safer non-carcinogenic retardants.

### SB 105 - Raising fines against polluters

Raises the penalty for violation of major federal environmental laws, such as the Clean Water Act, from \$10,000 per day to \$25,000 per day. The penalty rate for such violations has not been increased since 1973.

### SB 79 - Energy use task force

Creates a task force on energy use charged with studying and evaluating energy use in new and existing commercial and residential buildings. SB 79 also creates a voluntary energy performance scoring system for new and existing commercial and residential buildings.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

### Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Environment (cont.)*

#### HB 2080 - Water conservation in homes

Allows and encourages the appropriate re-use of gray water (waste water from baths, showers, bathroom and kitchen sinks) for things like watering lawns and gardens.

### HB 2626 - Energy efficient building upgrades

Establishes the Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Technology loan program (EEAST), to fund retrofits of residential and commercial buildings for energy efficiency upgrades. Allows qualified property owners to access long-term loans for energy efficiency upgrades and pay them back on their utility bill.

### SB 942 - Oregon Climate Corps

Modeled after the Master Gardener and Master Recycler programs, the bill creates a trained corps of volunteers to help Oregon residents, businesses, and other entities increase their understanding of climate change, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and address climate change challenges facing Oregon.

### SB 739 - Arsenic testing in residential wells

Adds arsenic to the list of chemicals tested in residential wells. Scientific evidence has shown that exposure to low levels of arsenic in drinking water over long periods of time increases the risk of internal organ cancers.

### HB 3037 - Encouraging paint recycling

Creates a paint stewardship pilot program with the goal of reducing paint waste, promoting paint reuse, and developing a system of collecting, transporting, and processing leftover paint in an environmentally sound fashion.

### SB 101 - Stopping new coal-fired power plants in Oregon

Creates a greenhouse gas emissions performance standard by requiring that new long-term contracts for power must come from a source at least as clean as that of natural gas, eliminating dirty coal plants from our energy mix.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

### Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Land Use*

### HB 2228 - Development rights transfer pilot program

Establishes a transferable development rights (TDR) pilot program within the Department of Land Conservation and Development and identifies specific areas, including the Metolius River Basin, for participation in a TDR project on a voluntary basis.

### HB 3298 - Protecting the Metolius River Basin

Designates the Metolius River Basin in Central Oregon as an area of critical state concern and protects it from future development, ensuring that the river and its fish and wildlife will be protected for future generations to enjoy.

### **HB 2229 - Big Look Task Force recommendations**

The Big Look Task Force was created in 2005 to perform a broad review of Oregon's land use planning program. This legislation addresses the effectiveness of Oregon's land use planning program in meeting the current and future needs of Oregonians in all parts of the state. It also considers the respective roles and responsibilities of state and local governments in land use planning. It also includes recommendations such as including an audit process to create a prioritized list of land use provisions that need updating.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

# Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Water Policy*

### HB 3013 - Marine reserves pilot program

Implements the Ocean Policy Advisory Council's recommendations concerning the evaluation of six marine reserves off the Oregon coast, and establishes one pilot marine reserve at Otter Rock and another pilot reserve and marine protected area at Redfish Rocks.

### **HB 3106 - Protecting coastal resources**

Creates a Task Force on Nearshore Research directed to make recommendations to ensure protection and utilization of Oregon's nearshore resources. The task force must also recommend a long-term funding and coordination strategy for implementing nearshore priorities of the state.

### HB 2583 - Cracking down on invasive species

Prohibits boats from entering Oregon waterways if they have any visible aquatic species on their exterior hull, or aquatic invasive species within the interior parts of the boat.

### HB 2220 - Check stations for invasive species

Helps address the threat of aquatic species infestations by allowing the Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Oregon State Marine Board, and the Department of Agriculture to operate check stations for the purpose of inspecting for and decontaminating watercraft of invasive species.

### HB 2020 - Resources to fight invasive species

Creates a fund to respond quickly to invasive species outbreaks, which are damaging to the environment and cause economic hardship to key industries, such as Oregon's agricultural industry.

### HB 3369 - Comprehensive water use package

A historic water package that includes standards for new storage projects, conservation efforts, and water planning. Requires the Oregon Water Resources Department to develop an integrated statewide water resources policy, creates a funding pool intended for loans on water resources projects, and provides funding to help with water storage in the Umatilla River Basin.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

# Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Agriculture*

### HB 2763 - Preference for Oregon Ag products

Promotes local food production and consumption by allowing state agencies to pay up to ten percent more than the lowest bidder for agricultural products produced and transported entirely within Oregon.

### SB 570 - Cracking down on metal theft

Safeguards expensive agricultural equipment by increasing penalties and creating significant obstacles to persons who have long used the sale of stolen scrap metal to finance their drug habits.

### HB 3089 - Protecting Oregon's wildlife

Allows Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to better protect wildlife by using easements to acquire critical habitat and through increasing fines for poaching Oregon's game animals and raptors.

### SB 676 - Increasing Oregon's agricultural crop diversity

Permits Oregon's farmers to grow and sell industrial hemp and hemp products, contingent upon Federal Drug Enforcement Agency approval.

### HB 2424 - Helping control noxious weeds

Includes removal of invasive weeds as part of Oregon's Adopt-a-Highway Program.

### SB 409 - Helping Oregon's berry growers

Berries are a particularly high risk crop and are very sensitive to market highs and lows. This legislation allows cooperatives of berry growers to bargain with more than one buyer at time, resulting in greater market stability over time.

### HB 3153 - Protecting Oregon's high value farmland

Requires a utility provider to consult with owners of high-value farmland prior to installing a transmission line, minimizing the impact on farming operations.

### HB 2904 - Helping Oregon's nursery industry

Clarifies that hoop houses are not permanent structures and therefore not subject to property taxation. Without this legislation, nursery owners would have been exposed to an additional tax burden.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

# Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Elections*

### HB 2386 - Online voter registration

Creates a system of online voter registration that is expected to improve voter participation, especially amongst voters that are traditionally difficult to reach such as students, minorities, members of the military, and persons with disabilities.

### HB 2005 - Initiative reform

Expands on reforms of the initiative system implemented in 2007 by clarifying requirements and standards for paid signature gathering, and gives the Secretary of State better tools to prevent forgery and fraudulent activity.

### HB 2895 - Citizen review panels

Encourages public perspective in the elections process by including statements on proposed initiatives in voters' guides written by panels of average Oregonians.

### HB 3473 - Encouraging civic engagement by youth

Requires schools districts with public high schools to adopt plans to encourage students to register to vote and to vote in elections.

### HB 2511 - Increasing voter access for deployed troops

Allows certain long-term absentee electors, like troops serving overseas, to use a fax machine to send in their ballot.

### HB 2667 - Verifying candidate addresses

Prevents unintended consequences by requiring the Secretary of State to verify the location of the residence of a candidate for state office when the address of the candidate is located less than 100 radial yards from a district boundary.

### SB 326 - Fusion Voting Light

Allows a voter who is registered with a major party to sign a petition to nominate a minor party candidate and vote in the primary election for a major party candidate. This legislation also allows the names of up to three political parties to appear opposite the name of the candidate on the ballot.

### LEADERSHIP THAT WORKS FOR ALL OREGONIANS

# Senate Democrats Deliver — 2009 Success List *Government Accountability*

### HB 2500 - Open government website

Allows Oregonians to access information about state government such as budgets and salary information online, resulting in a more transparent, more accountable state government.

### SB 778 - Rejecting pay raises

The legislature voted to reject an increase in legislative salaries recommended by the Public Officials Compensation Commission, effectively freezing the salaries of lawmakers and other statewide elected officials.

### SB 30 & HB 2518 - Keeping government officials accountable

Makes changes to 2007's landmark ethics legislation (SB 10) that address unintended consequences, including key concerns of local and state governments, while maintaining the integrity and intent of the original ethics reforms.

### HB 5015 & 5025 - Legislative budget rebalance and freeze

Froze salaries for all legislative employees and cut expenses in the Legislature's budget by 13 percent.

### HB 3139 - Government agency risk assessments

Requires certain state agencies to produce risk assessments and to use those assessments as a basis for holding at least one internal audit per calendar year.

### **HB 2073 - Rainy Day Fund deposits**

Directs the revenue collected from the higher tax rate on corporate profits over \$10 million per year into the Rainy Day Fund, providing a savings account to help keep schools open and protect vital services when revenue plummets.

### HB 2867 - Accountability in public contracting

Brings Oregon's public contracting process in line with the National Association of Auditors best practices and strengthens requirements to ensure that contractors comply with industry standards. Requires contracting agencies, before entering into a public contract, to establish measurable standards to assess quality of contractor's performance and clear consequences for failure to meet them.