

OREGON SENATE DEMOCRATS

FEBRUARY 2012 AGENDA

During the 2012 Session, Senate Democrats will continue to work for everyday Oregonians. We recognize that in challenging times, state government needs to commit to live within its means, cut waste, and protect what matters most. For Senate Democrats, those priorities include helping working families get ahead, supporting Oregon businesses, and improving how we deliver critical services to get the greatest value out of every dollar.

In the short February session, Senate Democrats are ready to get to work on Oregon's top priorities. This means balancing our budget while protecting middle class families from all corners of the state. In February 2012, we will:

STAND UP FOR MIDDLE CLASS OREGONIANS:

- ◆ Help Oregonians across the state who are struggling to stay in their homes
- ◆ Prioritize funding for critical programs that serve seniors, kids, and our most vulnerable
- ◆ Help Oregonians get back to work and get back on their feet
- ◆ Ensure that Oregon kids receive a high quality education at every stage, from our youngest learners to college students
- ◆ Stand up for rural Oregonians hit hardest by the economic recession and declining federal funds

CHAMPION THE NEEDS OF OREGON'S SMALL BUSINESSES:

- ◆ Promote an economic development strategy that increases capital for Oregon businesses, creates jobs, and fosters greater public-private partnerships
- ◆ Ensure fairness in state contracting and increase work opportunities for local small businesses
- ◆ Allow a preference for goods made by Oregon's small businesses and other American companies
- ◆ Simplify and streamline regulatory processes and permitting while protecting environmental, consumer protection, public health, and public safety interests

STRENGTHEN GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY & CUT WASTE TO PROTECT CRITICAL SERVICES:

- ◆ Balance the budget to make sure that government lives within its means
- ◆ Make sure that services for Oregonians who are fighting to stay afloat are delivered efficiently and fairly
- ◆ Continue our work to transform the delivery of health care for Oregonians, improving health outcomes and saving tax dollars
- ◆ Make sure that government contracts are fair, open, and creating jobs here in Oregon