

# OREGON SENATE DEMOCRATS

## High Quality Education

### **SB 1581 Oregon Education Investment Board**

Takes the next steps to better connect Oregon's higher education, K-12, and early learning services. This bill requires school districts, universities, and community colleges to adopt an "achievement compact" with the Oregon Education Investment Board each year, designed to set goals and track progress toward student achievement targets. The compacts will be developed with input from educators, parents, students, and community members, and will help determine where Oregon's education investments are making the greatest difference. This bill is a major step toward Oregon's application for a waiver from the federal No Child Left Behind Act.

### **SB 1538 Improving coordination of higher education services**

Consolidates responsibility for policies that affect the entire higher education system, such as degree authorization and transfer policies, under a single coordinating commission to more effectively coordinate and deliver these services. The Higher Education Coordinating Commission will also advise the Oregon Education Investment Board on achievement targets and funding for higher education institutions.

### **HB 4165 Streamlining early learning services**

Improves coordination across services for Oregon's youngest children, ages 0-6, to ensure that kids start kindergarten ready to learn. House Bill 4165 establishes a new model for coordinating state services for at-risk kids, consolidates several boards and commissions, and requires the Governor's Early Learning Council to report to the Legislature on ways to improve Oregon's early childhood system.

### **SB 5701 & SB 1579 Protecting education funding in rebalancing the budget**

- Makes no reduction to the State School Fund, the main funding mechanism for K-12 school districts.
- Maintains all 59 Early Head Start slots through June 2013.
- Continues supplemental funding for small, rural high schools across Oregon.
- Protects support for Oregon Opportunity Grants for Oregon's college students, an increase over last biennium with funds provided for the 2012 school year.
- Authorizes lottery bonds for construction projects at all 17 of Oregon's community colleges.

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### **HB 4061 Creating a framework for university governing boards**

Charges a special legislative committee with developing a plan to implement governing boards for individual universities, designed to give universities additional flexibility while maintaining state oversight. Oregon's seven universities are currently overseen by the State Board of Higher Education.

### **SB 1566 Improving availability of seismic ratings for Oregon schools**

Ensures parents can easily get information about the safety of their children's school by adding seismic ratings to a report parents already receive. School districts must include as part of their annual district and school performance reports a web link to the existing database on seismic readiness of Oregon.

### **HB 4141 Focusing state workforce investment and development**

Creates a work group to recommend ways to better align local, state, and federal resources for workforce development, improve accountability in workforce programs, and ensure that Oregon's workforce system is providing outcomes consistent with the needs of Oregon's businesses and workers. This group will develop legislative proposals for the 2013 session.

### **HB 4056 Promoting Education in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics**

Establishes the Task Force on STEM Access and Success to develop strategies to encourage students to study science, technology, engineering and mathematics, which will help Oregon develop a more advanced workforce and diverse economy.

### **HB 4013 Increasing access to college credit in high school**

Directs the State Department of Education to help school districts broaden the availability of college level courses in high school. The opportunity to earn college credit while in high school can make college more affordable by reducing the number of credits required to obtain a degree and provides many students an easier transition to college or university.

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## High Quality Education

### **HB 4014 Removing administrative burdens on schools**

Allows more focus on the classroom by repealing burdensome mandates on school districts. House Bill 4014 builds on similar legislation from recent years, cancelling certain state notification requirements and allowing school districts more flexibility about course schedules and materials.

### **HB 4058 Reducing textbook costs**

Creates a workgroup to recommend ways to reduce the cost of college textbooks. The workgroup is aimed at recommending legislation for the 2013 Legislative Session to help make the cost of textbooks more manageable for Oregon students.

### **HB 4059 Making prior education or work experience count**

Directs the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to increase the availability of academic credit for prior learning, including courses completed at higher education institutions, professional training, or military experience. Such credit can be counted toward a degree or certification, helping students achieve their academic goals, take advantage of work already completed, and save money.

# OREGON SENATE DEMOCRATS

## Looking Out for Our Kids

### **SB 1566 Improving availability of seismic ratings for Oregon schools**

Ensures parents can easily get information about the safety of their children's school by adding seismic ratings to a report parents already receive. School districts must include as part of their annual district and school performance reports a web link to the existing database on seismic readiness of Oregon.

### **SB 1555 Fighting cyber bullying**

Encourages a safe learning environment for Oregon kids by requiring school employees to act as mandatory reporters of harassment for bullying through electronic means, also known as cyber bullying. It also allows a student to report bullying anonymously to a mandatory reporter, and requires schools to implement proactive school policies regarding bullying and cyber bullying.

### **HB 4016 Expanding mandatory reporting of child abuse**

Helps protect children from abuse by expanding the list of people who are required to report child abuse, commonly known as "mandatory reporters." House Bill 4016 will help protect children attending extracurricular activities hosted at universities and colleges, sports organizations, and other youth-based organizations.

### **HB 4077 Preventing teen dating violence**

Helps teachers and students identify and prevent domestic violence in teens by directing schools to develop and incorporate age-appropriate curriculum to educate students about teen dating violence and make available resources about the warning signs of unhealthy relationships. This preventive measure will help young men and women identify and stop abusive tendencies before they become habits and lifestyles.

### **HB 4082 Helping abused and neglected kids**

Ensures support for Oregon's Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) programs by transferring authority for these programs from the State Commission on Children and Families to the Commission for Voluntary Action and Service. CASA volunteers advocate for the best interests of abused and neglected children who are under the protection of a court.

# OREGON SENATE DEMOCRATS

## Looking Out for Our Kids

### **HB 4015 Protecting kids from lead poisoning**

Directs the Oregon Health Authority to develop a lead poisoning prevention clearinghouse that provides information for K-12 schools about the dangers of lead exposure and how to best protect students from lead-based paint hazards.

### **HB 4172 Enforcing under-age tobacco sales**

Helps protect young Oregonians from tobacco and ensures that Oregon will continue to receive federal health care funds by reinstating a successful program that used retired Oregon State Police officers to inspect retailers to make sure they are following laws meant to keep youth from purchasing tobacco.

### **HB 4146 Helping youth victims of sex trafficking recover**

Helps victims of sex trafficking move on in their life by expunging juvenile records involving prostitution when the person was under age 18 at the time of the offense. The expungement occurs without a waiting period and, if no objection is filed, without a hearing.

# OREGON SENATE DEMOCRATS

## Helping Struggling Families

### **SB 1552 Helping Oregonians struggling to stay in their homes**

Allows Oregonians struggling to keep their homes to meet with their lender with a neutral mediator present to work out an agreement to avoid foreclosure. Under Senate Bill 1552, banks are required to meet with homeowners if the homeowner meets with a housing counselor first. The bill also prohibits a lender from changing the date of a foreclosure sale without notifying the homeowner and ends the ‘dual track’ process in which a lender is negotiating with a homeowner while simultaneously preparing to foreclose on the home.

### **SB 1548 The Fair Employment Opportunity Act**

Ensures that job applicants can't be prohibited from applying for a job opening solely because they do not currently have a job. With Oregon's long term unemployment rate stubbornly high, Senate Bill 1548 helps eliminate unnecessary barriers to employment. Once signed by the Governor, Oregon will be the second state in the nation to have such legislation.

### **SB 5701 & SB 1579 Protecting Critical Services with Budget Rebalance**

- Protects funds for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) in nearly all cases.
- Funds the Employment Related Day Care program for 8,500 Oregon families struggling to pay for quality child care while holding down a job.

### **HB 4068 Fighting hunger**

Helps regional food banks partner with the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife to recover unintentionally caught fish. Fish is a great source of protein, and this is one common sense strategy food banks can use to get much-needed food to hungry families.

# OREGON SENATE DEMOCRATS

## Protecting Vulnerable Seniors

### **HB 4084 Protecting vulnerable seniors from abuse**

Will help stop and prevent elder abuse by strengthening penalties for those who commit elder abuse, modifying records disclosure laws to ensure that law enforcement can investigate allegations of abuse, and creating a council to review reports of abuse to determine root causes and prevention strategies. Elder abuse includes physical injury not caused by accident, neglect leading to harm, abandonment, willful infliction of physical pain or injury, unwanted sexual contact or the inability to consent to sexual contact, or financial exploitation.

### **HB 4039 Helping struggling senior homeowners**

Provides that individuals who were disqualified from the Senior and Disabled Property Tax Deferral Program solely because they have a reverse mortgage can remain on the program for two additional years, allowing time for these vulnerable seniors to manage their finances while also protecting the long-term solvency of the program. The bill also requires lenders to notify potential borrowers that they will not be able to participate in the program if they have a reverse mortgage.

### **SB 5701 & SB 1579 Preserving Oregon Project Independence**

The 2012 Budget Rebalance makes no reductions to Oregon Project Independence and no additional reductions to adult day services and home-delivered meals. Oregon Project Independence serves vulnerable seniors who need limited assistance so they can stay in their own home and out of assisted living facilities.

### **SB 5701 & SB 1579 Protecting Long Term Care**

The 2012 Budget Rebalance Protects the Medicaid long-term care budget for seniors and people with disabilities while budget writers work to pursue additional federal Medicaid funding.

# OREGON SENATE DEMOCRATS

## Helping Our Veterans

### **SB 1563 Recognizing non-military uniformed service**

Extends benefits and flexibility already offered to members of the military to members of the commissioned corps of the US Public Health Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. These benefits include in-state tuition, reimbursement for hunting or fishing licenses, the flexibility to break a lease or withdraw from a course upon receiving orders related to duty, and other benefits. Senate Bill 1563 also requires community colleges to waive tuition for widows, orphans, and other dependents of deceased veterans.

### **HB 4063 Helping veterans find jobs**

Helps Oregon's veterans use the skills they learn serving their country to get a good job once they've returned home by giving licensing boards discretion to substitute military training or experience for similar requirements of numerous professional licenses and certificates. HB 4063 will make it easier for Oregon's veterans to make a living with the skills they already possess.

### **HB 4064 Helping veterans access services and help**

Helps more veterans take advantage of the programs available to assist them by codifying a referral process used by the Bureau of Labor and Industries to ensure that veterans who experience discrimination get the help they need.



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## Public Safety

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### **HB 4026 Improving access to justice**

Increases the number of judges on the Oregon Court of Appeals from 10 to 13, effective October 1, 2013. The Court consistently ranks as one of the busiest appellate courts in the nation.

### **HB 4077 Preventing teen dating violence**

Helps teachers and students identify and prevent domestic violence in teens by directing schools to develop and incorporate age-appropriate curriculum to educate students about teen dating violence and make available resources about the warning signs of unhealthy relationships. This preventive measure will help young men and women identify and stop abusive tendencies before they become habits and lifestyles.

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# OREGON SENATE DEMOCRATS

## Public Safety

### **SB 5701 & SB 1579 Protecting Public Safety with Budget Rebalance**

- Keeps all prisons open and does not require the release of any inmates.
- Maintains funding for alcohol and drug treatment, educational, and cognitive programs in the Department of Corrections.

### **SB 1575 Protecting the dignity of funerals and burials**

Shields funeral proceedings from disruptions by increasing the penalty for disorderly conduct if it is within 200 feet of a funeral. If a person makes unreasonable noise, engages in threatening behavior, or other behavior to disrupt the funeral, they can be charged with a Class A Misdemeanor, which is punishable by a maximum \$6,250 fine, one year in prison, or both.

### **SB 1527 Ensuring prosecution of strangulation crimes**

Makes clarifying correction to a bill passed by the 2011 Legislature that elevated the crime of strangulation and appropriately aligned punishment with the severity of the crime. SB 1527 changes "conviction" to "crime" to ensure that individual who commit this crime can be prosecuted.

### **HB 4172 Enforcing under-age tobacco sales**

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# OREGON SENATE DEMOCRATS

## Public Safety

### **SB 1561 Ensuring continuity in a state emergency**

Modifies state laws related to the Oregon Homeland Security Council to match a proposed constitutional amendment creating a plan for state government operations in an emergency. Oregonians will vote on this plan on the November 2012 ballot.

### **HB 4108 Helping theft victims recover stolen goods**

Creates a statewide standard for recording purchases of precious metals, aligning second hand stores and trade shows with current laws governing pawn shops and scrap metal dealers. House Bill 4108 requires a standard, statewide seven-day holding period for precious metal items sold second hand, and requires buyers to collect identification from those selling the items.

### **SB 1525 Public safety in Oregon's tribal areas**

Clarifies a change made by the 2011 Legislature that recognized tribal officers under state law. SB 1525 provides that an individual who is employed full time by a tribal government as a public safety officer and who meets certain criteria may be certified under state law regardless of whether the person's employing government chooses to comply with the changes passed by the 2011 Legislature.

### **SB 1528 Ensures liquor laws are enforced**

Clarifies the law enforcement powers of liquor enforcement inspectors by stating that liquor inspectors have the same authority as peace officers with respect to enforcement of liquor control laws.

# OREGON SENATE DEMOCRATS

## Safe Roads

### **SB 1546 Helping to ensure safe passage after storms**

Allows the Oregon Department of Transportation to clear debris and trees from highways after storms. SB 1543 gives ODOT the ability to enter a private property in order to determine whether a tree poses an immediate and substantial risk of damage or injury because it is obstructing or encroaching on a state highway or threatening to do so.

### **SB 1591 Ensuring highway rest areas are clean and safe**

Hands over responsibility for 17 additional highway rest areas around Oregon to the Oregon Travel Experience (OTE) over the next three years. The OTE has successfully improved the safety and cleanliness of the nine rest areas it began managing in recent years. SB 1591 ensures that the Government Camp and Tillamook Rest Areas slated for closure will remain open for travelers.

### **HB 4011 Keeping our roads safe**

Grants the Oregon Department of Transportation's Driver and Motor Vehicle Division (DMV) clear statutory authority to require that a person who is convicted of driving while under the influence of intoxicants (DUI) has received treatment before the person has his or her license reinstated. These provisions expire on January 2, 2014, allowing time for a work group to make recommendations to the 2013 Legislature.

### **HB 4017 Monitoring repeat DUI offenders**

Extends the time a person who committed three or more DUI (Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants) offenses must have an ignition interlock device installed from two to five years from the date driving privileges were restored.

### **SB 5701 & SB 1579 Protecting Critical Services with Budget Rebalance**

Maintains funding for senior and disabled transportation.

# OREGON SENATE DEMOCRATS

## Environment

### **SB 1510 Protecting our oceans by creating new marine reserves**

Establishes three new marine reserves off Oregon's coast. Fishing, mining, and other potentially disruptive activities are prohibited in a marine reserve to protect ocean habitats, promote research opportunities, and rebuild fish stocks. The new reserves join two already in effect. SB 1510 lays the groundwork for establishing reserves at Cape Perpetua, Cascade Head, and Cape Falcon.

### **SB 1512 Reducing mercury content in lighting**

Reduces contamination and exposure to mercury, an element that is toxic to humans and the environment, by lowering the mercury content allowed in lighting and establishing state standards for purchasing such lighting. Mercury is used in many types of light bulbs because it contributes to the bulbs' energy efficiency and life expectancy, one example being compact fluorescent light bulbs. While the bulb poses no health risk when used, if a compact fluorescent lamp is dropped or handled improperly, the glass tubing in the bulb may break and release mercury, creating health and environmental risks.

### **SB 1533 Expands use of geothermal energy**

Under current statute, 1.5 percent of the cost of a public building construction or reconstruction project over \$1 million must support solar energy technologies. SB 1533 adds geothermal to the types of renewable energy technologies that may be used to meet this requirement.

### **SB 1508 Streamlining bottle recycling and collecting data**

Allows beverage distributors flexibility to work together to recycle bottles as required by Oregon's Bottle Bill. Senate Bill 1508 allows more efficient sorting of returned bottles and requires distributors to report data about the percentage of bottles returned to help judge the success of Oregon's bottle recycling system.

### **HB 4015 Protecting kids from lead poisoning**

Directs the Oregon Health Authority to develop a lead poisoning prevention clearinghouse that provides information for K-12 schools about the dangers of lead exposure and how to best protect students from lead-based paint hazards.

# OREGON SENATE DEMOCRATS

## Health Care & Public Health

### **SB 1580 First-in-the-nation integrated health care system**

Continues the 2011 Legislature's overhaul of the health care delivery system by establishing coordinated care organizations that will offer integrated care for Oregon Medicaid patients.

### **HB 4164 Helping small businesses provide health insurance**

Improves access to health care by providing a central marketplace where small businesses and individuals can compare health insurance plans, find out if they are eligible for tax credits and other financial assistance, and enroll in coverage. The Exchange will help more small businesses offer and provide affordable health care to their employees.

### **SB 1507 Updating Oregon's HIV test consent procedures**

Brings Oregon's HIV test consent law in line with the national standard of care by removing the requirement that health providers receive a separate informed consent in order to test someone for HIV. Under SB 1507, the HIV test consent will be included in the general consent for most other standard tests, removing a barrier to screening and helping to prevent new HIV infections.

### **SB 1509 Promoting charity dental care**

Allows a licensed dentist or dental hygienist from another state to provide dental services in Oregon for charity for a limited time with the approval of the Oregon Board of Dentistry.

### **SB 1565 Improving access to health care**

Allows qualified physicians' assistants to dispense certain drugs, expanding access to health care.

### **HB 4027 Helping homeless populations receive health care**

Allows immunity from civil liability for people who are registered volunteers with a nonprofit if the person is providing medical or dental care to someone who is homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

# OREGON SENATE DEMOCRATS

## Health Care & Public Health

### **HB 4008 Ensures fairness for medical imaging professionals**

Makes changes that ensure that certain groups of technologists who are licensed under the Oregon Board of Medical Imaging can work without disruptions while fulfilling requirements updated by the Legislature in 2011.

### **HB 4128 Insurance coverage for cleft palates**

Requires insurers to provide coverage for treatments of cleft lip and cleft palate treatments and other craniofacial abnormalities.

### **SB 1504 Implementing federal health reforms**

Clarifies and modifies how Oregon is implementing federal health care reform by amending notification requirements for health insurers.

### **SB 1503 Protecting patient and worker health with flu vaccines \***

Standardizes a statewide flu vaccine policy for health care workers and helps to increase Oregon's vaccination rate among health care workers by requiring doctors, nurses, and others to either receive an annual flu vaccine or sign a form indicating that he or she declines the vaccine. Research shows that signing this kind of form increases the number of workers who receive an annual flu vaccine, decreasing the spread of the virus.

*\* Did not pass in House*

# OREGON SENATE DEMOCRATS

## Economic Development

### **HB 4040 The Oregon Investment Act**

Improves the effectiveness of Oregon's economic development resources by creating a unified economic development strategy under the Oregon Growth Board, increasing access to capital for Oregon businesses, and leveraging private and out of state investments to multiply the impact of our limited dollars.

### **Help for fiscally distressed timber counties**

**HB 4175:** Provides some counties dependent on federal timber payments with flexibility to use federal forest reserve money in restricted county road funds to pay for law enforcement patrols. Under current law, 75 percent of the revenues from logging on federal lands received by counties must be deposited in a county road fund that, in most cases, cannot be used for law enforcement or other services.

**HB 4176:** Establishes a process for the Governor to declare a fiscal emergency and convene a fiscal assistance board that has responsibility for adopting a plan that restores minimally adequate services to the county. HB 4176 makes significant changes to a process that already exists in statute; for example, prior to HB 4176, the board met with county officials, but under HB 4176 the county's governing body is included on the fiscal assistance board.

**HB 4177:** Permits counties, under certain conditions, to reduce expenditures on property tax assessment and collections without losing a proportional amount of funds from the County Assessment Function Funding Assistance Account (CAFFA). CAFFA was created to help fund county expenditures for property tax assessment and collection.

### **HB 4093 Enterprise zones to attract business investment**

Helps to create jobs and spur economic activity by expanding the use of enterprise zones in Oregon. Enterprise zones are designed to encourage business investment in specific areas through property tax relief. In addition to other changes, the bill allows the designation of up to eight additional enterprise zones, including five in rural or urban areas and three in rural areas only, while also allowing an increase in the size of enterprise zones from 12 square miles to 15 square miles.



# OREGON SENATE DEMOCRATS

## Economic Development

### **SB 1556 Allowing a preference for American-made transit vehicles**

Allows transit agencies to give greater preference to American products when making orders for transit vehicles. Senate Bill 1556 gives Oregon's communities the opportunity to invest more of their public transit funds in American jobs as they see fit.

### **HB 4141 Focusing state workforce investment and development**

Creates a work group to recommend ways to better align local, state, and federal resources for workforce development, improve accountability in workforce programs, and ensure that Oregon's workforce system is providing outcomes consistent with the needs of Oregon's businesses and workers. This group will develop legislative proposals for the 2013 session.

### **HB 4150 Expanding the Credit Enhancement Fund to help small businesses grow**

Supports Oregon small businesses by expanding eligibility for Oregon's Credit Enhancement Fund, helping businesses access capital needed to grow and expand by guaranteeing loans. House Bill 4150 allows non-traded sector businesses, such as retail and service businesses, to apply for loan guarantees through this program until July 1, 2015, helping to leverage \$16.5 million Oregon received last summer in federal funds designed to support small business credit.

### **SB 1543 Investing in our transportation infrastructure**

Creates jobs and improves our transportation system by transferring unused funds among transportation projects and establishes a process for the Legislature to annually gather information about unused transportation project funds. Projects include funding for safety improvements on Cornelius Pass Road and the Sellwood Bridge.

### **SB 1544 Creating jobs in central Oregon**

Allows the City of Redmond to re-zone a 465-acre parcel of land located within the city's urban growth boundary for development as long as the city meets certain requirements, creating the opportunity that jobs will be created on the parcel.

# OREGON SENATE DEMOCRATS

## Economic Development

### **SB 1532 Clarity for data centers in enterprise zones**

Clarifies that data centers located in enterprise zones that meet certain criteria will be locally assessed rather than centrally assessed for the purpose of property taxes, ensuring that the property taxes for the data center are predictable and will not include the value of intangibles that would be included if the center was centrally assessed. This bill clarifies in statute that Facebook's Central Oregon data center is not subject to central assessment.

### **SB 1558 Keeping Oregon competitive and helping create jobs**

Allows companies flexibility to use Industrial Development Revenue Bond proceeds for research and development conducted in Oregon and research and operating expenses that are associated with a capital asset. These changes update this statute to more closely match the financial needs of high tech companies that are developing the next generation of products in electronics, bioscience, renewable energy, software, and other growing industries.

### **HB 4034 Helping small businesses cover the bottom line**

Provides a common sense solution to ensure that subcontractors are paid on time by increasing penalties for late payments on public construction projects and requiring that subcontractors are notified of changes in invoicing procedures.

### **HB 4092 Supporting Oregon craft distillers**

Allows distilleries to sell drinks made with their liquor at short term (five days or fewer) events if the distillery applies for and receives a special events distillery license. Some distilleries will also be able to sell factory sealed containers of their liquor products at these events.

### **HB 4170 Allowing dog training in rural areas**

Clarifies the definition of "farm use" to include dog training and testing on land zoned for exclusive farm use. This common sense change will allow dog training along with other compatible activities, such as training and stabling horses, riding lessons, and shows.

# OREGON SENATE DEMOCRATS

## Economic Development

### **SJM 201 - O&C lands memorial to Congress**

Urges the President and Congress to allow Oregon counties in which revested Oregon and California Railroad (O&C) grant lands are located to exercise full management authority over those lands, either by transferring title to the lands to the counties without cost, by long term lease to the counties for a token amount, or by enacting the O&C Trust, Conservation and Jobs Plan proposed by Representatives DeFazio, Schrader, and Walden.

### **SM 201 - TRADE Act memorial to Congress**

Urges Congress to introduce and pass the TRADE Act, a measure that has been introduced in Congress to require the consideration of environment and labor standards, as well as states' interests, in trade agreements. SM 201 includes a series of whereas statements that advocate for a balanced trade policy and an end to liberalized trade policy that has had negative impacts on Oregon.

# OREGON SENATE DEMOCRATS

## Government Efficiency

### **HB 1518 Improving public contracting accountability**

Improves transparency in Oregon public contracts by prohibiting a vendor from writing the specifications for a project and then turning around and bidding on that project. The bill also allows a bidder to include information about the number of Oregon jobs that will be created if the bidder wins the contract and requires reports to the Legislature about contracts that don't follow normal competitive bidding rules.

### **HB 4131 Protecting front line workers with staff management ratios**

Helps protect positions in state agencies that provide front line services while improving efficiency in state government. House Bill 4131 requires agencies to reduce middle managers, building on successful legislation passed in 2011.

### **SB 1559 Simplifying payment for 911 services**

Streamlines payment to 911 centers by sending state payments directly to 911 answering centers, rather than through local governments first.

### **HB 4047 Allowing nonprofits to auction liquor**

Allows nonprofits to auction or raffle a bottle of liquor without obtaining state license. State law already allows beer and wine to be auctioned or raffled by nonprofits.

### **SB 1535 Simplifying and streamlining affordable housing documents**

Helps reduce errors and ensure proper recording of affordable housing documents by allowing the property owner to file a master document in the public record that can be incorporated by reference during future transactions. This simple change will reduce paperwork and save money.

### **SB 1517 - Ensuring ballot security\***

Clarifies statute to require counties to account for all ballots and report to Secretary of State once the county clerk certifies the election. The bill also requires any ballot used for duplication purposes be marked as a duplicate ballot, and requires that unused ballots be marked as such or sealed, secured, and accounted for by the county clerk.

### **HB 4041 Tax Fairness for Tribal Governments**

Extends an existing property tax exemption for buildings located on reservations that provide tribal government services to buildings that provide tribal government services but are not located on reservations.

# OREGON SENATE DEMOCRATS

## Rebalanced Budget that Protects Priorities

*During this short session, lawmakers protected the most critical services that vulnerable Oregonians and middle class families rely on despite a loss of over \$300 million in revenue since the end of the 2011 Session. With signs for future economic growth cautiously optimistic, lawmakers also prudently set aside funds to cover potential revenue declines prior to the next regular session in 2013.*

### Highlights of the 2012 budget rebalance plan include:

#### **Savings & Resources**

- Retains a sizable ending fund balance of over \$100 million and a Rainy Day Fund balance of approximately \$46 million.
- Provides the Emergency Board, the Legislature's budget committee when the full body is not in session, nearly \$100 million to cover potential future shortfalls between now and 2013, including special allocations for education programs, foreclosure issues, and human services caseloads.
- Assumes savings of over \$30 million from changes in the management structure of state agencies, focusing resources on protecting front line workers who deliver direct services to Oregonians.

#### **Human Services & Health Care**

- Protects funds for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) in nearly all cases.
- Funds the Employment Related Day Care program for 8,500 Oregon families struggling to pay for quality child care while holding down a job.
- Makes no reductions to Oregon Project Independence and no additional reductions to adult day services and home-delivered meals.
- Protects the Medicaid long-term care budget for seniors and people with disabilities while budget writers work to pursue additional federal Medicaid funding.
- Continues alcohol and drug treatment programs without reductions.

#### **Public Safety**

- Keeps all prisons open and does not require the release of any inmates.
- Maintains funding for alcohol and drug treatment, educational, and cognitive programs in the Department of Corrections.

# OREGON SENATE DEMOCRATS

## Rebalanced Budget that Protects Priorities

### **Education**

- Makes no reduction to the State School Fund, the main funding mechanism for K-12 school districts.
- Maintains all 59 Early Head Start slots through June 2013.
- Continues supplemental funding for small, rural high schools across Oregon.
- Protects support for Oregon Opportunity Grants for Oregon's college students, an increase over last biennium with funds provided for the 2012 school year.
- Authorizes lottery bonds for construction projects at all 17 of Oregon's community colleges. Projects range from classroom renovations to technology upgrades to improvements to support specialized programs important to Oregon's workforce.

### **Economic Development & Transportation**

- Maintains funding for county economic development programs and senior and disabled transportation.
- Provides additional dollars for Oregon Energy Assistance Payments.
- Accelerates help for homeowners facing foreclosure.