



SENATE MAJORITY OFFICE

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Senate Democrats elect Leadership Team

Democratic leadership reaffirms commitment to Oregon families

GLENNEDEN BEACH – The Oregon Senate Democrats today announced their leaders for the 2017 Legislative Session at a retreat held in Gleneden Beach this afternoon.

They elected the following state senators to leadership positions:

- **Senate President Designate:** Peter Courtney (D-Salem/Woodburn/Gervais);
- **Senate President Pro Tempore Designate:** Sen. Laurie Monnes Anderson (D-Gresham);
- **Senate Majority Leader:** Ginny Burdick (D-Portland);
- **Senate Deputy Majority Leader:** Sara Gelsler (D-Corvallis);
- **Senate Majority Whip:** Mark Hass (D-Beaverton);
- **Senate Majority Whip:** Rod Monroe (D-Portland);
- **Senate Assistant Majority Leader:** Michael Dembrow (D-Portland);
- **Senate Assistant Majority Leader:** Chuck Riley (D-Hillsboro).

In the 2017 Session, Democrats will hold a 17-13 majority in the Senate and elected their leadership during meetings at Salishan Resort on the Oregon Coast.

“I am honored to be re-elected by my Democratic colleagues to serve as Senate Majority Leader,” Burdick said. “I look forward to continuing our work in the upcoming session to focus on priorities for everyday Oregonians: jobs, transportation, quality education and standing up for the middle class.”

Courtney, who first was elected Senate President in 2003, will officially be nominated for an 8th term on the first day of the 79th Oregon Legislative Assembly, on Jan. 9, 2017, when the full Senate votes to elect its president. Courtney must receive a majority of votes from the full Oregon Senate to be elected President.

Under Senate Rules, Sen. Laurie Monnes Anderson – elected by the caucus as Senate President Pro Tempore Designate – also must receive a majority of votes from the full Oregon Senate to be elected to the position.

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