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Statement by Senate Majority Leader Ginny Burdick on 2017 Legislative Session Sine Die

SALEM – Oregon Senate Majority Leader Ginny Burdick (D-Portland) released the following statement today regarding Sine Die of the 2017 Session of the Oregon Legislature:

"Looking back on one of the most challenging sessions in recent memory, I am proud that we were able to accomplish some monumental tasks. We balanced the budget, in spite of a \$1.4 billion shortfall between available resources and the amount it would take to maintain the current service levels. We also worked across the aisle to strengthen worker protections, with sweeping bipartisan support. Our biggest accomplishment was passing a transportation package our state desperately needs. We also ensured that all Oregonians will have access to the reproductive health services they need and that all children in our state will have access to health coverage. We took steps toward ending profiling in Oregon. The Extreme Risk Protective Order bill will save lives by keeping deadly weapons out of the hands of those in crisis who pose a threat to themselves or others.

Even with those accomplishments, there were some things left on the table. We still must address revenue reform to adequately and sustainably fund state services. We still need to pass meaningful tenant protections to give families certainty about their housing, which affects all aspects of their lives. While we are proud of the things we were able to accomplish, we will begin preparing immediately to come back next session ready to achieve the things we have yet to do."

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