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Senate Democrats choose Sen. Laurie Monnes Anderson as Senate President Pro Tempore Designate

GLENEDEN BEACH – Sen. Laurie Monnes Anderson, D-Gresham, was elected as the Democratic Senate President Pro Tempore Designate by her colleagues Friday afternoon at the biennial Senate Democratic Caucus Retreat in Gleneden Beach.

Official duties of the Senate President Pro Tempore include presiding over the Senate whenever the President is absent. Additionally, the President Pro Tempore serves as a member of the Senate Democratic Leadership team.

“I am excited to continue in this role on the leadership team,” Monnes Anderson said. “I look forward to working closely with President Peter Courtney and all of my Senate colleagues to address the issues that matter most to the people of Oregon: education funding and improving our educational system, battling climate change, public health, health care, public safety and supporting small businesses.”

Under Senate Rules, Monnes Anderson must receive a majority of votes from the full Senate to be elected President Pro Tempore. Democrats will hold 18 seats in the 2019 Legislative Session, which will convene Jan. 22, 2019. The Senate will vote to elect chamber officers, adopt rules and appoint committees on Jan. 14 during Organizational Days. The 2019 Legislative Session opens on Jan. 22.

Monnes Anderson has represented Senate District 25 – which includes Gresham, Troutdale, Fairview and Wood Village – for 14 years. She is Chair of the Senate Committee on Health Care, Vice Chair of the Senate Committee on Veterans and Emergency Preparedness and is a member of the Senate Committee on Human Services and Early Childhood. Monnes Anderson has worked in a variety of specialty areas as a county public health nurse, including helping people battle drug addictions and assisting at-risk seniors.

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