



SENATE MAJORITY OFFICE

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Oregon State Legislature

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Senate Majority Leader Rob Wagner Statement on the March Economic and Revenue Forecast

SALEM – Today, the Office of Economic Analysis presented the March Economic and Revenue Forecast to the House Committee on Revenue and the Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue in a joint virtual meeting. In response, Senate Majority Leader Rob Wagner (D-Lake Oswego) issued the following statement:

“While we received some good news today, Oregon’s economy is in a delicate state. Throughout 2020, the Legislature’s Joint Emergency Board responded swiftly to the urgent needs of Oregonians affected by the pandemic, the economic recession and wildfires.

“I am dismayed at the disproportionate ways Oregonians have experienced this crisis. Many wealthy Oregonians have largely recovered from the recession, while those in poverty struggle to see an end in sight. Those most impacted also include women, BIPOC folks and LGBTQIA+ community members. More women experienced job loss than did men, and moms are disproportionately exiting the workforce. We cannot allow this pandemic to roll back long-fought-for gender equity.

“It remains abundantly clear that our economic recovery is tied to our ability to slow the spread of COVID-19. That means getting Oregonians vaccinated and renewing our commitment to follow public health guidelines. When individuals hold large gatherings, refuse to wear a mask or ignore distancing and hygiene recommendations they put lives at risk, as well as our economic recovery.

“I am hopeful the Biden Administration and Congress will pass legislation that provides additional funds to states, local governments, businesses and individuals. We need critical support from our partners in the federal government to deliver essential services and maintain our economy.”

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