



## **SENATE MAJORITY OFFICE**

Salem, Oregon  
Oregon State Legislature

### **PRESS RELEASE**

January 22, 2021

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### **Oregon Senate Democrats Release a Bold Agenda to Lead Oregon's Recovery and Meet Oregonians' Urgent Needs**

SALEM – Today, the Oregon Senate Democrats released our 2021 Session Agenda. The Senate Democrats agenda reflects our commitment to respond to Oregonians' greatest needs during our state's current crises and ensure equity is centered in all policy.

"Oregonians elected us to lead, and they trust us to show up for them and enact policies to improve their lives," said Senate Majority Leader Rob Wagner (D-Lake Oswego). "Navigating the COVID-19 public health crisis is at the forefront of our focus this session. We know Oregonians are struggling and the necessity of ensuring broad access to quality, affordable health care is exceptionally apparent."

"The crises Oregonians have faced are vast and, at times, feel unrelenting. It's our job to address our state's most urgent needs. We also must be thoughtful as our economy recovers and as we rebuild following a devastating wildfire season," said Sen. Wagner. "We must plan for the future. That means addressing climate change head on. We also cannot roll back progress we have made to protect Oregon's workers or investments we have made in our students' futures."

"I am proud of the bills we passed during special sessions last year to improve the justice system and enhance police accountability, and we can build on that work and do more to acknowledge and change racist and oppressive systems and institutions," added Sen. Wagner. "Senate Democrats have committed to examine all policies and investments through a lens of equity. We must strive to address the needs of our most vulnerable first and consider impacts on Black Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) communities, low-income residents, women, LGBTQIA+, rural communities, those living with physical and intellectual disabilities as well as marginalized and historically underserved Oregonians."

"To address Oregonians' greatest needs, Legislators must show up and demonstrate the oath they took to serve was in good faith," said Sen. Wagner. "Oregon Senate Democrats are committed to ensuring our democracy and our government works for everyone."

The Oregon Senate Democratic Agenda focuses on six key areas:

- Supporting Small Businesses and Securing Family Wage Jobs
- Protecting Our Natural Resources and Developing Clean Energy
- Demanding Justice in Our Courts, Law Enforcement Transparency and Practical Public Safety
- Promoting Access and Equity in Public Education
- Delivering Effective, Equitable and Person-Centered Health Care and Social Services
- Making Democracy and Government Work for Oregonians

This agenda builds off Senate Democrats' [legacy of success](#) enacting policies to improve the lives of Oregonians in every corner of the state – even in the face of great challenges.

“I am confident in the Oregon Senate Democrats skills, experience, and deep commitment to their constituencies and all Oregonians. This is a difficult time in history. We were elected to lead the state through it and get to the other side stronger than before. I know we will.”

View the [Oregon Senate Democrats 2021 Legislative Agenda](#).

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