

SENATE MAJORITY OFFICE

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CONTACT: Rick Osborn (503) 986-1074 Rick.osborn@oregonlegislature.gov

Sen. Riley to continue work on government oversight

Committee will focus on government transparency and accountability

SALEM – Sen. Chuck Riley, D-Hillsboro, was appointed yesterday by Oregon Senate President Peter Courtney, D-Salem, to chair the Senate Committee on Business and General Government in addition to co-chairing the Joint Legislative Committee on Information Management and Technology.

"Government transparency and accountability is important to all Oregonians," Riley said. "That's why I am so excited to continue playing a leadership role on general government and accountability. As a small business owner, I'm also looking forward to helping to solve the structural revenue issues facing our state that trickle down throughout state government as part of the Finance and Revenue Committee. We will be charged largely with finding a way to fund a groundbreaking education funding package for this state, and I'm looking forward to digging in."

The Business and General Government Committee will focus on accountability and transparency in state government including vetting and holding hearings on legislation that involves public records, auditing, government accountability and transparency. The committee also will address business issues facing the state's private sector employers. The Joint Legislative Committee on Information Management and Technology, which Riley will co-chair, will have oversight responsibilities over major information technology projects executed at the state level.

In addition, Riley will serve on the Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue as well as the Joint Committee on Tax Expenditures. The Finance and Revenue Committee deals largely with taxation issues, and a big focus this session will be funding an expansive education overhaul desperately needed in Oregon. On the Joint Committee on Tax Expenditures, Riley will continue his work to keep the state government accountable and transparent in terms of how tax dollars are invested in programs to meet the needs of Oregonians.

Riley, who serves District 15 – encompassing Hillsboro, Forest Grove, Cornelius and North Plains – is a United States Air Force veteran and retired small business owner. In the Legislature, he has been heavily involved in IT, business and transportation, finance and revenue, audits and tax credit committees.

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