



Oregon Senate Republicans

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 27, 2020
Contact: Kate Gillem
kate.gillem@oregonlegislature.gov
503-986-1952

Senate Republican Leader Urges Senate President to Return to Intent of the Short Session

SALEM, Ore. – Today, Senate Republican Leader Herman Baertschiger, Jr. (R-Grants Pass) [sent a follow-up letter](#) to Senate President Peter Courtney (D-Salem), urging him to return to the intent of the 35-day short session by focusing on budget adjustments and policy fixes. Instead, the Democrats have ineffectively managed the legislative calendar by prioritizing cap and trade, forcing Senate Republicans to boycott.

“We could have gotten all the budget items and more done, but the Democrats decided to bring the most divisive legislation up first, likely knowing a boycott would be the result,” said Senator Baertschiger. “Republicans have suspended the rules to not read bills as a sign of dedication to getting the policy and budget bills through the process. I’ve told Senator Courtney that we will come back with enough time to pass the bills that the short session was intended for, if cap and trade dies or is referred to voters.”

On February 17, Senator Baertschiger [sent a different letter](#) to the Senate President with the same request to focus on legislation that the short session was intended for.

###