



Oregon Senate Republicans

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Kate Gillem

503-986-1950

Statement from Senate Republican Leader on Education Spending Bills

SALEM, Ore. – Today, Senate Republican Leader, Herman Baertschiger, Jr. (R-Grants Pass) released the following statement about the bills designed to spend [HB 3427](#), the gross receipts sales tax disguised as an education bill.

[HB 5016](#) is the bill that spends money from the General Fund for the education budget that many Senate Republicans supported. However, many Senate Republicans voted against [HB 5047](#), the bill that spends the money from the sales tax, but without the constitutional amendment to dedicate the funds to education, the majority party is already taking from the K-12 budget.

“We know HB 3427 is a massive new sales tax that was disguised as an education bill. Without a constitutional amendment dedicating this money to education, the money that was promised to schools has already been stolen.

“Democrats took almost half of the new tax increase and used it to fill what should have gone to the normal K-12 budget, which freed up at least \$343 million for them to use on pet projects and not our kids’ education.

“Waiting until the end of session like we have now to fund the education budget is terrible for our schools. In 2 years when the legislature sets the budget once again, we will see the empty promises from the majority party as our schools continue to suffer.”

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