



Oregon Senate Republicans

PRESS RELEASE

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Senate Republican Leader Statement on Ways & Means Committee Partisan Politics

SALEM, Ore. – Today, Senate Republican Leader, Herman Baertschiger, Jr. (R-Grants Pass) released a statement about the partisan politics played by Senate President Peter Courtney (D-Salem) on the Ways and Means Committee, the most powerful budget committee in the legislature:

“In order to get the votes they needed for [House Bill 2020](#), cap & swindle, one of the most devastating bills I’ve ever seen, out of committee, the Senate President replaced Ways and Means Co-Chair Senator Betsy Johnson (D-Scappoose) on the committee. Pay attention Oregon – this is a true example of partisan politics to push an agenda that will cripple rural Oregon.”

The cap and trade legislation punishes the poor, impoverishes working families and destroys rural Oregon by skyrocketing prices at the pump, natural gas costs, and locks future Oregonians in binding contracts with other states and countries.

Senator Baertschiger, Jr. was appointed to the Ways and Means Committee today to fill the vacancy left by Senator Jackie Winters (R-Salem).

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