



Oregon Senate Republicans

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Statement on Democrats Excluding Oregonians From Legislative Process, “We are left with half-truths, and that scares me.”

SALEM, Ore. – Today, an [editorial](#) in The Oregonian outlined the government overreach by the super majority Democrats during the second special session: Oregonians were excluded from the legislative process; unable to testify and offer up real world experience, knowledge and input on the budget, unemployment or police reform legislation that passed on Monday.

In the Joint Committee on the Second Special Session of 2020, Senate Republican Leader Fred Girod (R-Stayton) commented on the disturbing trend that Democrats continue to leave Oregonians out of the process, going against the fundamental purpose of government.

“I’ve said this before, but this is the building of the people, and it is wrong for the super majority party to lock Oregonians out of the legislative process,” said Senator Girod. “We should value public input because we will get better answers to the pressing problems in Oregon than we are getting right now. Right now we are left with a whole bunch of half truths. I don’t know what’s true and what’s not, and that scares me.”

Senator Girod continued, “It doesn’t make sense that Oregonians can go to restaurants and bars with masks and that’s considered ‘safe’, but they can’t participate in the legislative process.

“The Constitutional rights Oregonians are ‘allowed’ to exercise seems to be based on partisan ideological prejudice, rather than open and transparent decision making where the public has a voice. Oregonians should wield the power to inform legislation, not the other way around.”

Watch Senator Girod’s [remarks in committee here](#).

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