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### **Senate Republicans Disappointed in 'Status Quo' Revenue Forecast**

Salem, OR - Today, the State Economist released the final revenue forecast for the fiscal year, predicting little to no change from the May revenue forecast that indicated over \$1.75 billion in additional revenue due to economic growth and recovery. Despite the additional revenue, Senate Republicans once again highlighted Democrats' unwillingness to fully fund K-12 education and support small businesses to ensure a strong economy in the future.

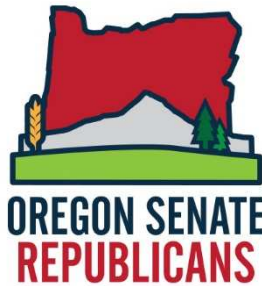
"This 'status quo' revenue forecast once again proves that while Oregonians enjoy \$1.75 billion in new revenue, Democrat leaders refuse to use that money to fully fund Oregon schools," said Senate Republican Leader Ted Ferrioli (R-John Day). "This past session, Democrats deliberately underfunded K-12 education by hundreds of millions. As students return to school next month, they won't see smaller class sizes, longer school years or more programs. We should be sending additional revenue to our kids and classrooms where it belongs."

Senate Republicans argued a stagnant revenue forecast indicated the Democrat-controlled legislature's inability to strengthen the economy and create new jobs. In the 2015 session, Democrats passed numerous anti-small business mandates that will lead to layoffs, shuttered shops and higher prices for consumers across the state.

"The only silver lining from this revenue forecast is Oregonians will see much-needed tax relief from the constitutional 'kicker'," explained Senator Tim Knopp (R-Bend). "With a fiscal cliff looming on the horizon, Democrat leadership needs to step up and put the additional revenue from this forecast toward schools and critical services-not bloated bureaucracy-without taking the kicker away from Oregon families."

"The kicker should go directly to the citizens to spend, save, invest or dispose of as they see fit," explained Senator Ferrioli. "If the legislature had established the kicker as a stimulus check, Oregonians could receive checks in the mail as early as next month. The economy needs stimulation now, not months down the road."

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