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Winters Steps Down as Senate Minority Leader, Baertschiger Elected Leader

Salem, Ore. - Long-time Republican Senator Jackie Winters steps down as Senate Minority Leader. Senator Winters, an icon in the Oregon Senate, has spent much of her tenure serving on Ways and Means, working on health care and prison reform issues. Senator Winters plans to continue this work as she has the significant institutional knowledge that will be much needed this session.

Senator Herman Baertschiger, Jr., (R-Grants Pass) has been elected Senate Minority Leader.

"Filling the shoes of Senator Winters is going to be an enormous task. I am sure I will find myself in Senator Winters office quite often during the session."

Senator Chuck Thomsen (R-Hood River), Senator Alan Olsen (R-Canby) and Senator Cliff Bentz (R-Ontario) will serve as Senate Republican Deputy Leaders. Senator Dennis Linthicum (R-Klamath Falls) will continue in his position as Senate Republican Whip.

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