

from the

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER Jackie Winters

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<u>Statement from Senator Jackie Winters on</u> <u>Senate Republican Leadership</u>

Salem, Ore. - Senator Jackie Winters (R-Salem) has released the following statement:

"I am proud of what we have accomplished this past year while I have served as the Senate Republican Caucus Leader. It has been an interesting time to serve as leader, through what some have described as challenging times. I am proud of my time as Leader. Much to the surprise of our opposition we were able to protect and defend all of our incumbent Senators during a very tough election cycle. It was a lot of hard work, and I would like to thank the team around me. We accomplished what we set out to do. I would also like to thank the voters of Senate District 10 for sending me back to the Oregon Senate - it is an honor to represent them.

Thank you to all who have who stood with me this past year. Thank you for encouraging me to continue on, I am grateful for your support. After careful consideration and a lot of prayer, I have decided that I will not seek re-election as Senate Republican Leader. It has been an honor to lead the Senate Republicans, but it is time to go back to my roots tackling tough issues with a renewed enthusiasm.

There is much work to be done this session and there are many things I would like to accomplish. I have always been a leader that puts our community first, working across the aisle to get things done. We have a unique opportunity in 2019 to get terrific things done for Oregon, and I am humbled to be a part of it. I believe my full attention will need to be focused on one of the things I pride myself on - bringing both sides together to work on solutions to the challenges facing Oregonians."

Winters became Oregon Senate Republican Leader in November of 2016 following the resignation of Senator Ted Ferrioli (R-John Day). Winters was the first African American Republican woman to lead a caucus. Winters was first elected to the Oregon House of Representatives in 1998 where she served two terms. In 2002 she won election the Oregon Senate.

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