



## OREGON SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER PRESS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Date:** February 4, 2026

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### **Rising Revenues, Lagging Economy: Oregon Must Focus on Jobs and Growth, Not Higher Costs**

**SALEM, Ore.** – Oregon’s latest [quarterly revenue forecast](#) released today shows rising general fund revenues and a growing ending fund balance, yet it also lays bare a stark failure of leadership. While the national economy continues to grow, Oregon is sliding backward. Personal income tax collections are declining, unemployment remains above the national average at 5.2%, and population growth has flatlined. These outcomes are not accidental. They are the direct result of years of misguided state policies that have driven employers, workers, and families out of Oregon.

Instead of changing course, the Democrat-controlled Legislature is moving forward with a [tax gimmick proposal](#) immediately after the forecast’s release. The proposal would raise costs on businesses and middle-income Oregonians and further destabilize Oregon’s economy, despite clear warning signs and available resources. At a time when Oregonians need relief and stability, Democrats are choosing higher taxes and slower growth.

“Raising costs on businesses and middle-income Oregonians right now is indefensible, and voters have already rejected this approach in overwhelming fashion,” said **Senate Republican Leader Bruce Starr**. “With additional resources on the table, Democrats are deliberately choosing to suppress economic growth and shrink our tax base. More than 250,000 Oregonians sent a loud, unmistakable message by saying ‘enough is enough’ to the tax schemes pushed by Governor Kotek and the Democrat supermajority. Oregon can recover and thrive again, but only if we work together to support and encourage economic and job growth.”

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