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**Baertschiger calls meditated attacks on hard-working miners dangerous and out-of-control**

SALEM, Ore.-Today, lawmakers wrestled over a proposal Republicans are calling a meditated attack on hard-working miners and their families. The measure, Senate Bill 3, seeks to expand state regulations and fees that will constrict mining operations.

Disappointed with the results of the work session on Senate Bill 3, state Sen. Herman Baertschiger, Jr., R-Grants Pass, released the following statement:

*"Senate Bill 3, will decimate economic growth for local businesses and mining-dependent establishments. Places like gas stations, hotels, restaurants, supply shops, and grocery stores will be hard hit by this attack on mining.*

*"Small-scale suction-dredge mining adds millions to Oregon's economy and we cannot afford to wipe-out even more jobs with out-of-control job-killing regulations like this hoax of a bill.*

*"Oregonians should be outraged. People in my district are upset over urban attacks on the innocent people who work hard to make a good living and who contribute to our society.*

*"When people wear jewelry, use cell phones or computers they are benefiting from the precious metals found by the miners under attack by this bill. Now, we must take this fight to the Senate Floor where I will be a strong voice for Oregonians who deserve better than dangerous proposals like Senate Bill 3."*

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**For interview and commentary requests please contact Senate Republican Communications Director Jonathan Lockwood at**

