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Senate GOP Leader Opposes Political Patronage

SALEM, Ore. – After 25 years in the Legislature, Senator Ginny Burdick (D-Portland) is now an expert on federal energy policy. Burdick was recently nominated by Governor Brown to the Northwest Power and Conservation Council.

While serving a three-year term, she will make a comfortable \$142,848/year. After one term, taxpayers will **quintuple** her PERS benefits and pay her over \$66,000 per year in retirement.

Today, Senator Burdick cast the deciding vote for her own nomination in the Senate Rules Committee. After Republicans asked to vote on Sen. Burdick and one other appointee separately to avoid voting against a bevy of qualified individuals, Democrats continued with an en bloc vote, which is a singular vote for nearly 100 nominations.

The nomination will now move to the Senate floor where Republican Leader Fred Girod (R-Lyons) will vote against her nomination again. He released the following statement:

“I have not voted for these kinds of golden parachutes in the past, and I won’t start now. These kinds of political favors destroy faith in our democracy and expose the corruption in our politics. I will enthusiastically vote against her nomination on the Senate floor.”

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