



THE HONORABLE GREG SMITH
Oregon House of Representatives

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**Representative Greg Smith Carries PERS
Reform Bills To House Floor**

SALEM – Today [Representative Greg Smith \(R-Heppner\)](#) carried a pair of bills that focused on reforms to the [Public Employee Benefits System \(PERS\)](#). The two pieces of legislation were House Bill 2456 and House Bill 2113.

"We have an opportunity to pass good PERS reforms in the final days of session," Rep. Smith said. "These two solutions will help make our state's pension system more affordable and accountable."

[House Bill 2456](#) eliminates a benefit for certain PERS retirees who reside out of state. PERS retirees living in Oregon receive an increased benefit to offset Oregon income taxes on their retirement benefits. However, retirees that subsequently move out of state continue to receive the benefit even though they no longer pay taxes to the State of Oregon. HB 2456 prohibits the increased benefit for these out-of-state residents.

"It doesn't make sense for Oregonians to subsidize additional PERS benefits for retirees who don't live in our state. HB 2456 fixes this problem and will save taxpayer dollars," said Rep. Smith.

The second reform bill, [House Bill 2113](#), is the omnibus PERS "clean-up" that fixes statutes related to the Public Employee Retirement System and its Oregon Public Service Retirement Plan. **One of the most important things the language in this bill does is to clarify that legislators don't get special deals that are not available for every other member of the plan.** The change also ensures consistency with federal tax qualification laws.

"HB 2113 corrects several outdated provisions and unintended errors in our state's PERS laws," Rep. Smith said. "I look forward to sending both of these much-needed PERS reform bills to the Governor's desk."

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