

**State Representative
Kim Thatcher (R-Keizer)**



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Thatcher Testifies on International Trade Wednesday

(Salem) International trade is the focus of a **special joint hearing on Wednesday June 7th 2006 before the House Interim Committee on Economic Development and the Senate Interim Committee on Economic Development Agency Oversight.** State Representative Kim Thatcher (R-Keizer) will be one of the featured speakers at the hearing which gets underway at **1 PM in Hearing Room 50 at the State Capitol.**

“There are so many opportunities for Oregon companies to do business overseas, especially with our trading partners in the Far East,” said Thatcher. “Our state needs to be more aggressive in promoting and encouraging export and import trade with other countries.”

Representative Thatcher was one of four members of the Oregon House to lead a trade mission to China and South Korea last fall. The delegation met with business, government, political and education leaders in those countries. On Wednesday she will testify before the joint committee on some of the things she learned from that trip and suggestions for enhancing relations.

While in South Korea, the Representatives visited officials Guemsan County, the sister county to Yamhill County which is part of Thatcher’s legislative district. “It was great to make a local connection to the folks back home. We discussed some of the agricultural exchanges our two countries and counties should expand.”

Thatcher is a member of the House Committee meeting on Wednesday and she’s looking forward to learning more from other speakers at the hearing. The Port of Portland, the Oregon Department of Agriculture and several other experts in the international trade arena are also expected to testify.

**** Agenda for the Wednesday meeting is attached to this news release.**

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