



2022 Legislative Short Session

MARCH 2022



Short Summary



Representative **Andrea Valderrama**



House District 47

Introduction

The 2022 short legislative session brought historic investments and support necessary for Oregon's economic recovery and stability.

This session was also marked by **new House leadership**, with Representative Dan Rayfield stepping in as Speaker of the House, and Representative Julie Fahey stepping in as Majority Leader. I was honored to have been elected by my fellow colleagues to serve as **Deputy Whip** alongside Representative Rob Nosse as Majority Whip and **Co-Vice Chair of the BIPOC Caucus**.



We began this legislative session with **253** introduced pieces of legislation. I served on several committees that gave me the opportunity to weigh in on and support many of these bills including: **Joint Ways and Means, House Housing, House Revenue**, and the **Joint Committee on Farm Worker Overtime**.

In outer east Portland, we continue to face simultaneous crises like lack of affordable housing and homelessness, economic instability, high COVID-19 rates and lower access to vaccines, increasing costs of living, rising gun violence, and an exhausted education workforce.

I addressed these district and statewide needs by providing **\$600 support payments** to low income individuals and families and passing **farmworker overtime, transforming justice**, and **universal representation**. I'm proud to report that Oregon House Democrats passed a **\$400 million dollar** housing package to address Oregon's ongoing housing crisis.

Thank you to the many coalition partners, co-sponsors, and individuals who collaborated with our office to get these important bills across the finish line! I'm honored to work alongside you all.

**2021-
2023**
biennium

\$24
billion Gross
General Fund

\$789
million increase
from December
2021 revenue
forecast

\$807
million increase
from 2021 close of
session revenue
forecast

111,000
housing units
deficit in the
past decade

February 2022 Revenue Forecast

Gross General Fund revenues for the **2021-23** biennium are expected to reach **\$24.9 billion**. This represents an increase of **\$789 million** from the December 2021 forecast, and an increase of **\$807 million** relative to the Close of Session forecast.

Unfortunately, the wealth isn't equally distributed and middle and lower income Oregonians continue to bear the brunt of the lingering economic hardships exacerbated by the pandemic. Long term, we need tax reform that holds corporations accountable, closes the wealth gap, and lifts up low income and BIPOC communities.

2022 Short Session Budget Investments

HB 5202 (budget reconciliation bill) provided funding for:

- Housing supply
- Homelessness prevention and response
- Worker relief
- Childcare and summer learning
- Behavioral health
- Community violence prevention
- Crime victim assistance
- Disaster and wildfire recovery and resiliency
- Drought and climate resiliency
- Economic and community development projects
- Public universities and community colleges
- Information technology projects

2022 Short Session Budget Investments Cont.

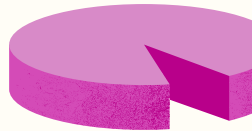
Reproductive Equity Fund



Through HB 5202, the Legislature appropriated **\$15 million** to **Seeding Justice** to administer the Reproductive Equity Fund. This funding ensures that Oregon is prepared to address unprecedented threats to reproductive freedom. The fund advances reproductive equity in supporting:

- Key investments in capital and infrastructure
- Outreach and engagement
- Strategies to address unmet patient needs
- And providing a robust and transparent community-informed process

Oregon Worker Relief Fund











Through HB 5202, the Legislature appropriated **\$65 million** to the **Oregon Worker Relief Fund**. A portion of this budget allocation – **\$15 million** – will be used to provide pandemic relief for individuals who lost work because of COVID-19 but are ineligible for unemployment because of *immigration status* and to provide direct \$600 payments to ITIN filers.



2022 Legislative Accomplishments

This session we successfully passed over **100 bills** and invested **\$1.4 billion** into addressing homelessness, increased violence, and the rise of cost of living among other urgent needs. I'm pleased to share that a majority of my legislative agenda passed!

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|  <u>HB 4157</u>
Cost of Living Support Payments |  <u>SB 1510</u>
Transforming Justice 2022 |
|  <u>HB 4002</u>
Farmworker Overtime |  <u>HB 4144</u>
Election Worker Safety |
|  <u>SB 1543</u>
Universal Representation |  <u>SB 1569</u>
Race and Ethnicity on Tax Forms |
|  <u>SB 1536</u>
Access to Cooling |  <u>HB 4099</u>
Racial Equity and Justice Youth Collaborative |

Unfinished Business + Moving Forward

Unfortunately, one of my top priorities, **HB 4099: Racial Equity and Justice Youth Collaborative**, did not move forward this session. Deep appreciation to the youth who organized and raised their voices on this important issue. We'll be bringing it back next session.

In addition I'll continue working to:

- Research how to prevent displacement of tenants
- Increase accessibility to the historic property program for underrepresented communities
- Ensure economic stability for working families
- Foster safety in our schools and communities

Please contact my office if you have concerns, questions, or thoughts as I continue planning for the 2023 long session!

You can sign up for my newsletter [here](#), visit my website [here](#).

Representative Andrea Valderrama

900 Court St. NE, H-373 Salem, OR 97301

Office: (503) 986-1447 **Email:** rep.andreavalderrama@oregonlegislature.gov



@repvalderrama



@repvalderrama



@dreavalderrama