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PRESS RELEASE

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Senate Republicans Must Return to Work so Senate Can Consider Abortion Rights Bill

SALEM – Today, four Senate Republicans and one Independent were absent without an excuse, leaving the Oregon Senate without a quorum for the third straight day. No bills were voted on, and no actions were taken.

After it became clear those members would not arrive, **Senate President Rob Wagner (D-Lake Oswego)** spoke from the rostrum about the need for all members to be present so the people’s work can continue.

“The voters who sent each of us here expect us to show up for work, debate vigorously, and get things done for the people of Oregon,” he said.

President Wagner spoke of the concerted effort Republicans have undertaken this week to defy the will of Oregon voters – an effort clearly intended to stop the chamber from voting on a bill protecting the right to reproductive health care for all Oregonians.

To ensure the Legislature can complete its work before the constitutional deadline of June 25, the Senate will hold a floor session every day until a quorum is reached, President Wagner announced.

“To every single one of you: I respect your right to have a different opinion and for us to disagree,” President Wagner said. “But disagree here, on the People’s Floor, out in the open, where the people of Oregon can see where we stand and participate in the process.”

His complete remarks are available on the Oregon Legislative Information System and at this [link](#).

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