



OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
House Republican Caucus

January 9, 2023

**Via Electronic Mail**

The Honorable Tina Kotek  
Office of the Governor  
900 Court Street, NE Suite 254  
Salem, Oregon 97301

Governor Kotek:

We write today to congratulate you on your swearing-in as the 39<sup>th</sup> Governor of the State of Oregon, and to express our sincere hope that the Governor's office and the Legislative Assembly can co-exist for the benefit of all Oregonians.

As exemplified by a trying campaign for both the Executive and Legislative branches, it is clear that the partisan divide between Democrats and Republicans provides no benefit to the constituents that elected us.

The constituencies that our Caucus represent highlight the best that Oregon has to offer. Indeed, our Caucus provides valuable, real-world insight to a variety of policy debates, and by working together, we can solve the most pressing needs facing our State.

To that end, we want to underscore areas of agreement between your previously stated governing outlook and the House Republican perspective.

*First*, we agree that housing, homelessness, and a lack of economic opportunity continue to plague Oregon. Our goal is to expand housing opportunity by cutting regulatory red tape, promoting small business engagement and job growth, and working towards a sound, economically feasible solution to rising housing costs and affordability.

*Second*, we firmly believe that responsible fiscal policy can help alleviate the rising costs Oregonians are currently experiencing. At the time of the November 2022 election, Oregon experienced a year-over-year inflation rate of 8.1%. At the same time, private sector wages have continued to decrease. Simply put, Oregonians are facing ever-increasing costs for goods and services which far exceed growth in wages.

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We are committed to promoting proposals which reduce the overall economic burden on families, including a temporary reduction in income tax and a coinciding reduction in overall government spending. These incremental changes are a modest, simple way to provide everyday Oregonians with economic aid while larger, structural reforms can be debated by the Assembly.

*Third*, Oregonians also want to feel safe within their communities. Too often, law enforcement and public safety are used as pawns in political discourse. While we are committed to developing policies which improve policing and community trust, we should also recognize that the men and women in law enforcement provide valuable and necessary protection and are selfless in their pursuit of serving their community.

*Fourth*, we want to ensure that all branches of government understand and appreciate that the laws enacted in Salem go far beyond the metropolitan areas. Oregon's rural communities provide vital resources for our state and over-burdensome regulations negatively impact those who provide our state's most critical commodities.

Lastly, we also are committed to government expenditures which benefit all, not just a chosen few. To do so will require increased accountability to spending proposals and policymaking. Oregon must position itself to allocate scarce resources and funding to the greatest benefit. This means continuing to monitor government waste and re-allocating monies for health care, education, agriculture, and housing.

It also means promoting policies which provide opportunity, including empowering parents to choose which school their children should attend irrespective of location or finances, reducing the regulation and opportunity cost for entrepreneurs to start businesses, and providing sound investment strategies to existing government programs to maximize efficiency and reliability.

From the coast to the high desert, from the Columbia River to Crater Lake, Oregonians want a better, more efficient, and responsible government. In this spirit, the House Republican Caucus wishes to promote a meaningful working relationship with your Office. We look forward, therefore, to working together on these, and other platforms for the benefit of all Oregonians.

Sincerely,



Vikki Breese-Iverson  
House Republican Leader



Shelly Boshart Davis  
Deputy Republican Leader

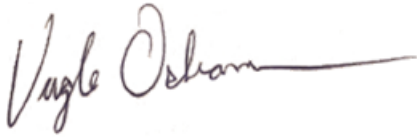


E. Werner Reschke  
House Republican Whip

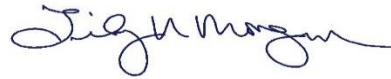


David Brock Smith  
State Representative, District 1

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Virgil Osborne  
State Representative, District 2



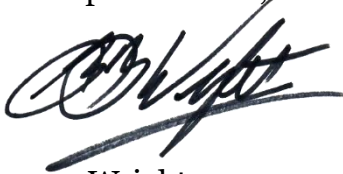
Lily Morgan  
State Representative, District 3



Christine Goodwin  
State Representative, District 4



Kim Wallan  
State Representative, District 6



Boomer Wright  
State Representative, District 9



Jami Cate  
State Representative, District 11



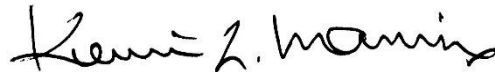
Charlie Conrad  
State Representative, District 12



Ed Diehl  
State Representative, District 17



Rick Lewis  
State Representative, District 18



Kevin Mannix  
State Representative, District 21



Tracy Cramer  
State Representative, District 22



Lucetta Elmer  
State Representative, District 24

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Anna Scharf  
State Representative, District 23



Brian Stout  
State Representative, District 31



Cyrus Javadi  
State Representative, District 32



Jeff Helfrich  
State Representative, District 52



James Hieb  
State Representative, District 51



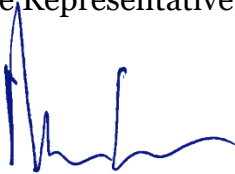
Greg Smith  
State Representative, District 57



Emily McIntire  
State Representative, District 56



Bobby Levy  
State Representative, District 58



Mark Owens  
State Representative, District 60

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