



Speaker to Attend Oregon Business Plan's 4th Annual Summit

Forum brings business, political leaders together to craft agenda for successful future

Speaker of the Oregon House of Representatives Karen Minnis will speak at the Oregon Business Plan's 4th Annual Summit at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland on January 9. The Oregon Business Plan is a unique forum that brings together Oregon's business and political leaders to craft an agenda for a successful future.

"I've been impressed with the leadership shown by the business community in developing the Oregon Business Plan," said Speaker Minnis. "They've given very careful thought to many public policy issues and followed through on making changes in how Oregon does business.

"By presenting a unified, informed and non-partisan voice, they have been instrumental in passing some of the most important legislation of the last several years, such as the 2003 Transportation plan which represented the largest single investment in the state's road and highway system," said Speaker Minnis.

In addition to Speaker Minnis, Senate President Peter Courtney, Governor Ted Kulongoski and U.S. Senators Gordon Smith and Ron Wyden will also be speaking at the event along with Harvard University Professor Michael Porter and Gates Foundation Education Director Tom Vander Ark.

Speaker: Taxpayers, Poor Shouldn't Burden the Costs of DHS's Mistakes

Reacting to the Department of Human Services (DHS) \$172 million shortfall, Speaker Minnis said that taxpayers and Oregon's poor shouldn't have to bear the costs of what is largely a forecasting error at the agency.

"Lawmakers need to see a blueprint for change to restore confidence in DHS while making sure we provide help to those who truly need it," the Speaker said.

Emergency Board Meets in January

The state Emergency Board, which acts as the Legislature's budgeting authority when the Legislature is not in session, will meet January 18 and 19 at the State Capitol to consider state agency requests for funding.

E-Board subcommittees will meet beginning at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, January 19 and the full E-Board will meet at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, January 20.

Public Commission on the Legislature subcommittees to meet next week

Two committees of the Public Commission on the Legislature will meet next week at the Capitol. The Commission is undertaking a review of the Legislative Branch and will report to the 2007 Legislature with recommendations to improve it. For more on the Commission, go to: <http://www.leg.state.or.us/pcol/home.htm>

The Public Institution Cmte. will meet at 8:30 a.m. in Hearing Room A on Friday, Jan. 13.

The Process Cmte. will meet at 11:30 a.m. in Hearing Room A on Friday, Jan. 13.

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