



Roadmap for **Oregon's Future**

Oregon House Democrats' Pledge for 2008

“Secure in Our Homes; Safe in Our Communities”

When Oregonians elected Democrats to lead the House of Representatives in 2006, it signaled a new direction for Oregon, one that puts people over politics. First released in 2006, our Road Map to a better Oregon future – one that is shared by a majority of Oregonians across party lines -- includes:

- *Establishing a world-class educational system for our children and our economy,*
- *Guaranteeing access to quality health care regardless of income, and*
- *Maintaining a smart and accountable state government that invests in creating good jobs and promoting a healthy environment.*

As we continue along the road toward improving Oregon in the 2008 session, House Democrats will base decisions on the priorities outlined in this Road Map and *within existing resources*. We pledge to continue our efforts to ensure that all Oregonians are secure in their homes and safe in their communities.

FEBRUARY 2008 PRIORITY ACTIONS:

IMPROVING TOY SAFETY LAWS – House Democrats will work to ensure the safety and health of our children by prohibiting the sale of toys and other children’s items that have been recalled.

PROTECTING ABUSED AND NEGLECTED CHILDREN – House Democrats will fight to protect abused and neglected children by increasing the number of staff devoted to regularly visiting homes to ensure our children are safe, while also reducing the growing backlog of home visits..

KEEPING SENIORS HEALTHY AND INDEPENDENT– Along with constructing a blueprint for how Oregon will ensure the health and independence of our growing senior population and creating a stable system of long term care, we will act to strengthen these programs in order to maintain continued access to the most appropriate level of care.

BUILDING A STRONGER OREGON STATE POLICE — Continuing our successful efforts from the 2007 session in adding 100 new state troopers, House Democrats will move the Oregon State Police toward 24/7 coverage on Oregon highways.

PROTECTING FAMILIES FROM FORECLOSURE — Democrats will enact stronger laws to provide Oregon families with the tools, strategies and assistance they need to avoid foreclosure of their homes. We will also work to identify long-term solutions to the mortgage lending crisis.

INCREASING GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY — House Democrats will promote greater accountability in state government, including passing legislation to create an advisory Committee on Performance Excellence, while improving the state’s ability to respond quickly to policy and budget issues as they arise.

INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE — In order to ensure business and job growth, House Democrats will lay the foundation for improvements in water storage and land use planning to ensure these systems are robust and dependable; and continue discussions about transportation improvements for 2009.