



**PETER COURTNEY
PRESIDENT
OREGON SENATE**

**KAREN MINNIS
SPEAKER
OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

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**E-BOARD APPROVES FUNDING TO IMPROVE CONDITIONS AT STATE HOSPITAL,
PUT MORE STATE TROOPERS ON ROAD**

SALEM – The State Emergency Board today approved additional funding that will, among other actions, put more state troopers on Oregon's roads and improve conditions at the Oregon State Hospital. In total, the E-Board today approved \$10.8 million in expenditures from the state's general purpose Emergency Fund and \$7 million from special purpose appropriations; leaving the state's Emergency Fund with a balance of \$17.4 million.

Senate President Peter Courtney (D-Salem/Gervais/Woodburn) and House Speaker Karen Minnis (R-Wood Village) are particularly proud of the committee's approval today of more than \$1.6 million to the Oregon State Police to put more troopers on Oregon's roads and to establish a sex offender registry web site and more than \$9 million to improve facilities and staffing at the Oregon State Hospital.

"I'm convinced that if everyday Oregonians could come with me to the State Hospital's J Building, they would say, 'This is intolerable. I don't want my Oregon to be like this.' We've neglected the hospital for more than 50 years and the neglect shows," said Senate President Courtney. "Today, we took important steps toward reversing neglect at the hospital and toward making our communities safer with more troopers on the road."

"We considered and approved several dozen requests today, but by far the most important was funding to improve the safety of patients and staff at Oregon State Hospital facilities and a legislative initiative to put more state troopers on Oregon's roads and highways," said House Speaker Minnis.

The E-Board is a 17-member joint House and Senate Committee with the authority to release money from the state's Emergency Fund when the Legislature is not in session. The E-Board meets quarterly.

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