



Oregon Senate Republicans  
Oregon House Republicans

December 13, 2007

Senator Kurt Schrader and Representative Mary Nolan  
Co-Chairs, Joint Ways & Means Committee  
C/o Legislative Fiscal Office  
900 Court Street NE, Room H-178  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs Schrader & Nolan:

We would like to respectfully submit to you the following funding requests for the February 2008 Special Session on behalf of the Oregon Senate and House Republicans.

- \$4.1 million to fund the Oregon State Police at a level which would provide 24/7 coverage on Oregon's highways. Oregonians throughout our state deserve State Police protection, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- \$3.4 million to Oregon Project Independence, which would restore funding cut from the Governor's Recommended Budget during the 2007 Session. We must sustain this important project that allows seniors to receive care in their own homes.
- \$400,000 for the Big Look Commission, a much-needed entity established to review Oregon's land use laws but whose funding was cut during the 2007 Session. With Measure 49's passage, it is now time to restore the Commission and allow for bipartisan land use reform to proceed.

As outlined in our joint agenda for the 2008 Session, House and Senate Republicans believe that these funding items are a priority for Oregonians. These priorities must be addressed during the February Session given their critical importance to public safety, seniors' health care, and our state's outdated land use system.

Your memo dated December 7, 2007, states that the 2008 Session is "not for a 'second bite of the apple' for programs that did not pass muster during the regular session." We hope you will agree that the aforementioned projects certainly should not fall into the "did not pass muster" category, but are priorities that the Oregon Legislature has an obligation to address.

Sincerely,

  
Ted Ferrioli  
Senate Republican Leader

  
Bruce Hanna  
House Republican Leader