



REPRESENTATIVE KAREN MINNIS
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HOUSE DISTRICT 49

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, January 13, 2006

CONTACT: Charles Deister
503-986-1200

STATEMENT FROM SPEAKER MINNIS REGARDING
A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE LEGISLATURE

SALEM – Late yesterday, State Sen. Vicki Walker (D-Eugene) and Rep. Robert Ackerman (D-Eugene) called for a special session of the Legislature to deal with the budget shortfall at the Department of Human Services (DHS). They are invoking ORS 171.015(1) which sets in motion a process whereby the Legislature may call itself into session with the agreement of a majority of both chambers.

House Speaker Minnis (R-Wood Village) had the following to say regarding convening a special session:

“The call for a special session is premature,” said Speaker Minnis. “Convening without a clear, bi-partisan plan for addressing the situation at DHS and restoring confidence that it won’t happen again, is a recipe for a long session and a waste of taxpayers’ dollars.”

“Bringing the budget of the state’s largest agency back into balance will require serious and careful thought,” the Speaker said. “We still don’t know the whole picture and are waiting for additional information from the agency, so it is premature to assume any course of action at this point.”

This statement and an archive of past press releases issued by the Speaker’s Office are available on the web at: <http://www.leg.state.or.us/house/speaker/home.htm>.

###