



## Senator Bruce Starr

---

Oregon State Capitol  
900 Court Street NE, S-411  
Salem, Oregon 97301

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
December 15, 2009

CONTACT: Michael Gay  
503.986.1950

### **Starr receives high honor from state's largest job creators**

**Salem, OR** – Associated Oregon Industries, one of the state's largest and most influential business organizations, has given Senator Bruce Starr (R-Hillsboro) an award for his leadership in bolstering Oregon's economic climate. The Chairman's Award was given jointly to Starr, Steve Clark, President & Publisher Portland Tribune & Community Newspapers, and Pat Reiten, President Pacific Power at PacifiCorp for their leadership in passing the Jobs and Transportation Act of 2009.

“Without Senator Starr's determination this important legislation would not have occurred,” said Dan Harmon, AOI Chairman, at the AOI Annual Meeting on December 10. “Because of his leadership thousands of Oregonians will have good jobs, our businesses will be more prosperous and our roads and bridges will be safer for our families, friends, workers and visitors.”

The transportation package funds 50 projects spread across the state, equaling \$960 million in investment. For the first time, the transportation package includes a list of the projects that are funded so taxpayers know exactly what their tax dollars are buying. Projects in Washington County include the Highway 26/Glencoe interchange, the Highway 26 lane expansion, and the Shute Road interchange.

“I know that Oregon families are struggling to find jobs and keep current on the rent, and my most important priority is to create strong, lasting, family-wage jobs across Oregon that will give individuals an opportunity not just to get by but to thrive,” said Starr. “I believe that this transportation package is going to put a lot of people to work in the short and the long term, and ultimately make Oregon a more attractive and viable place to start and locate a business. This is the type of work Oregonians can expect from leaders when they put partisanship aside.”

As Chair of the House Transportation Committee in 2001, Bruce Starr spearheaded the first investment in Oregon roads in over a decade by forging an alliance between traditional enemies truckers and AAA. Every regular session since has made an investment in transportation with Senator Starr's leadership.

###