



Senator
DICK ANDERSON
COASTAL DISTRICT 5



Holidays on the Coast

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Friends,

Sue and I spent a quiet Thanksgiving with friends and watched the Portland Timbers successfully move along in their playoff games just before we enjoyed our turkey dinner. We hope you all were able to be with family and friends this year as well.

One thing we have been thankful for this season is seeing all the new homes moving into the Echo Mountain fire area. One after another, new homes are moving in. Many families will once again have their own home for the holidays, so we are thankful. Others are still trying to find a way home or waiting for the arrival of their new place. It is a slow process. I hope you will join us in helping to make the holidays special for the Echo Mountain Fire people and others in our community. Treating them with kindness and sharing in any way you can, would be a blessing.

We are moving on through the holidays that take place through to the New Year. As we spend time celebrating in our own ways, please be safe in your travels, healthy and get your boosters as we continue to be thankful. Happy holidays and best wishes from Sue and me.

Dick

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dick Anderson".

Legislative Sessions - It just keeps on coming

Sometimes government can be confusing. Here is what has been happening with all these different "legislative sessions".

We finished the long session the end of June. We had a special session in September to cover redistricting. In November we had a week of Legislative Days

which consisted of interim committee meetings for updates and presentations. I was appointed Vice Chair of the Housing and Development committee and continue to work on the Full Ways and Means committee as well as two subcommittees on Natural Resources and General Government. I continue to be busy with the Behavioral Health Transformation Work Group and the Universal Task Force. Most of our meetings that week were virtual, but I was in the Capitol several days with the other Senators for the Ways and Means meetings and the Senate vote to address the Governor's recommendations for many appointed positions.

The next scheduled Legislative Days will be in January prior to the short session in February and March. The short session is 35 days. In theory, the short session was created for legislators to fix any policy issues from previous legislation. It is not meant as a time to handle any major, new issues as there are not enough days scheduled to adequately address such issues.

Keeping with the intended spirit, legislators are limited to 2 bills each. The first bill I am putting forward is addressing a concept that did not make it through the long session because of the number of bills presented. It is a standardization of American Sign Language (ASL) translators along with confirmation of knowledge to be professionally capable of the job of being a licensed translator.

The second bill I have submitted is in response to previous legislation and encourages compliance. The present bill "suggests" that State government should consult with tribal governments in such areas where they have strong, mutual interests. Some examples include water, timber, and gaming. The new bill I will present will have more strength to make sure these collaborations happen.

From my position on Housing and Development, committees have a right to set forth additional legislation for consideration. Again, to strengthen the compliance of an earlier bill, we will be creating new legislation so any financial impact on housing development must be disclosed before any new bill may be presented. Legislators then will know the financial impact of any new legislation on housing BEFORE they vote on that bill.

In addition, I will continue to support key issues that are of concern in the district that are coming from other legislators in areas like childcare and behavioral health.



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small towns and communities. By shopping or dining at small businesses throughout the year, you're showing your support for the businesses in your neighborhood and in the community, you call your own. This is more important now during the holidays.

You know how best to do this, I just want to give a gentle reminder to all our wonderful folks up and down to coast.



State Senator Dick Anderson - Office S-t303. 503-986-1705 sen.dickanderson@oregonlegislature.gov
