

AGENDA

Thursday, October 23, 2025 – 1:00 PM

CLACKAMAS, MULTNOMAH, HOOD RIVER & WASCO COUNTY BOARDS

STATE SENATE DISTRICT 26 VACANCY APPOINTMENT JOINT MEETING

Meeting Link: https://clackamascounty.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_RYJHesASSvCaN-tK5kxa6Q

Please note this meeting will be held via virtual format only.

I. CALL TO ORDER

- Roll Call
- Meeting Purpose Statement
- Introduction of Nominees:
 - Christine Drazan
 - John Grant
 - Jeffrey Helfrich
- Explanation of Meeting Procedure

II. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

Members of the public are encouraged to submit written comments to bcc@clackamas.us by 4:00PM on Wednesday, October 22, for inclusion in the materials provided to all Commissioners.

Members of the public who wish to speak during the meeting must register in advance using the link provided above.

Please note testimony will be limited to one (1) minute per member of the public.

III. NOMINEE OPENING STATEMENTS

Please note statements and answers will be limited to two (2) minutes per nominee.

IV. BOARD QUESTIONS

- A. Wasco County
- B. Hood River County
- C. Multnomah County
- D. Clackamas County

V. NOMINEE CLOSING STATEMENTS

VI. DELIBERATIONS

VII. VOTE

County	Number of Registered Electors	Votes per County	Number of Commissioners	Votes per Commissioner
Clackamas	68,785	69	5	13.8
Hood River	16,809	17	5	3.4
Multnomah	8,932	9	5	1.8
Wasco	14,637	15	3	5.0

VIII. STATEMENT BY SELECTED NOMINEE

IX. CONCLUDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTACHMENTS

ATTACHMENT A: Map of Senate District 26

ATTACHMENT B: Secretary of State Meeting Notification Letter

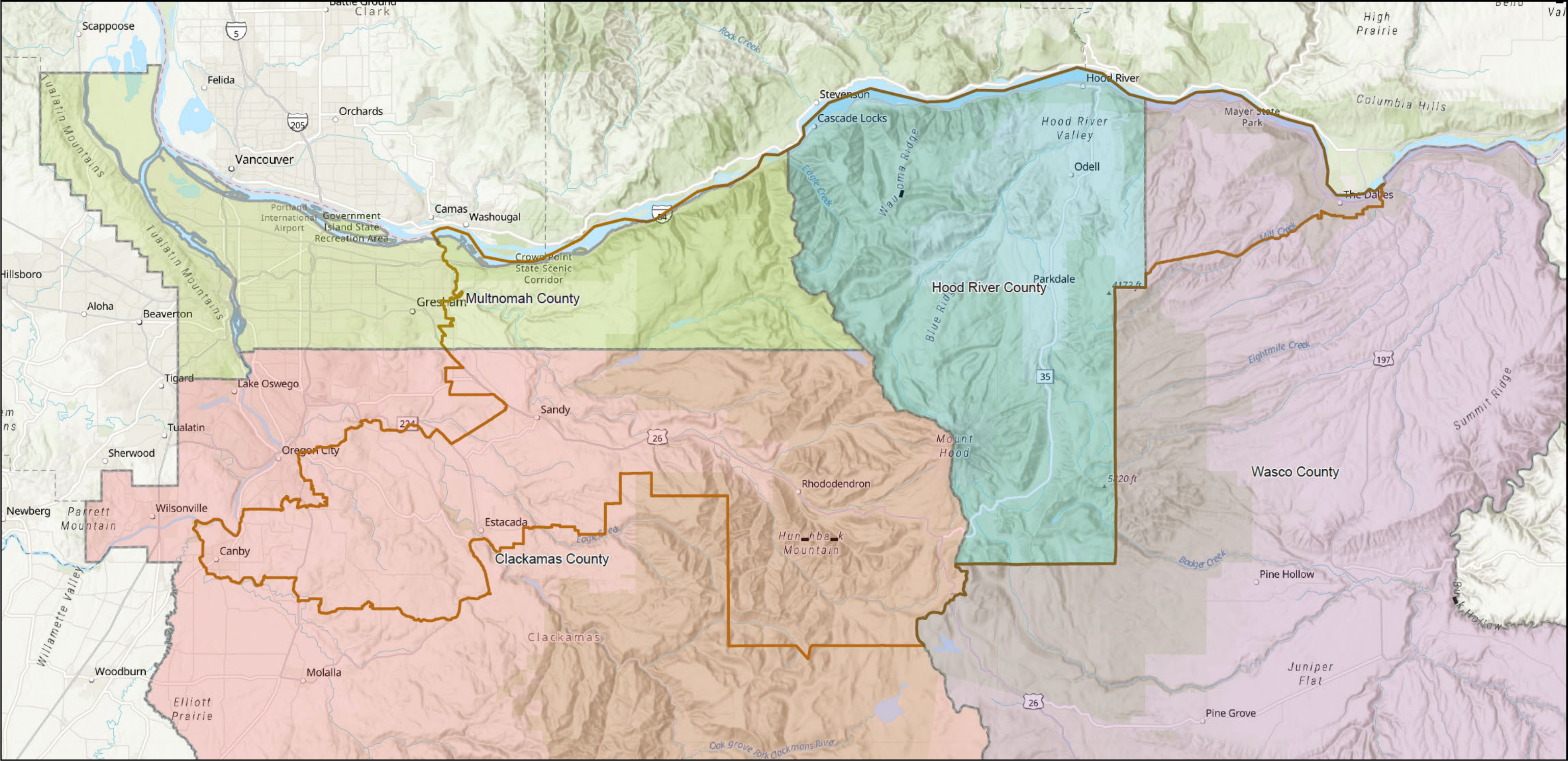
ATTACHMENT C: Nominee Materials

ATTACHMENT D: Written Public Comments

- SUBMISSION DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22 at 4:00PM
- BCC@clackamas.us

ATTACHMENT E: Meeting Statement

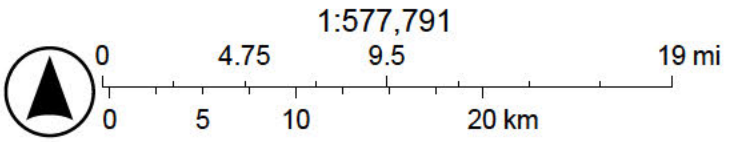
Attachment A
Senate District 26



10/9/2025

United States County Boundaries

	Multnomah County		Oregon Senate (SD 26)
	Clackamas County		Wasco County
	Hood River County		World_Hillshade



Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community, Esri, USGS



Dena Dawson
Division Director



October 20, 2025
Sent Via Email

Clackamas County Commissioners
Hood River County Commissioners
Multnomah County Commissioners
Wasco County Commissioners

Re: Vacancy in State Senate District 26

Effective October 5, 2025, there is a vacancy in State Senate District 26 due to the resignation of Senator Daniel Bonham.

The Republican Party precinct committeepersons of State Senate District 26 met and chose nominees to fill the vacancy. The nominees chosen are:

1. **Christine Drazan**
2. **John Grant**
3. **Jeffrey Helfrich**

The Appointing Authority must meet to appoint one person from the list of nominees.

The vacancy must be filled **no later than November 4, 2025**, 30 days after the vacancy occurred.

Craig Roberts, Clackamas County Commissioner, has been asked to chair the joint meeting.

The time of the meeting is as follows:

Date: **October 23, 2025**

Time: **1:00 PM**

Virtually
by Zoom: <https://clackamascounty.zoom.us/j/85705535314>

Enclosed is a copy of OAR 165-010-0060 outlining the procedures for conducting a meeting to fill a vacancy in the Legislative Assembly.

Also enclosed is a Statement for use in notifying the Secretary of State of the appointment including signature and vote tabulation sheets. Please complete and return the completed Statement and Tabulation sheet immediately after the meeting, it can be emailed back to me at Lydia.Plukchi@sos.oregon.gov or to elections.sos@sos.oregon.gov.

In accordance with ORS 171.062 and ORS 171.064, when a vacancy occurs in a legislative district encompassing two or more counties, each county is entitled to one vote for each 1,000 of its electors or major fraction of 1,000 (more than 500 registered electors, but less than 1,000) residing within the district at the time the vacancy occurred. However, any county having electors in the district shall be entitled to at least one vote. Each county commissioner is allotted the following number of votes:

County	Number of Registered Electors	Votes per County	Number of Commissioners	Votes per Commissioner
Clackamas	68,785	69	5	13.8
Hood River	16,809	17	5	3.4
Multnomah	8,932	9	5	1.8
Wasco	14,637	15	3	5.0

These votes are apportioned to each county commissioner. If for any reason a county commissioner is unable to attend the meeting on October 23, 2025, that county commissioner's vote would not be cast. The votes are not reapportioned for the remaining county commissioners to cast.

If further information is needed, please contact me at (971) 358-9651. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Lydia Plukchi
Compliance Specialist

c: Catherine McMullen, Clackamas County Cler
Trent Wilson, Clackamas County Government Affairs Manager
Andrew Jarocki, Clackamas County Clerk to the Board
Brian Beebe, Hood River County Clerk
Tim Scott, Multnomah County Elections Director
Chrissy Zaugg, Wasco County Clerk
Christine McNamara, Executive Assistant

Attachment C

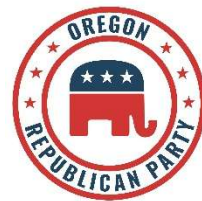
October 19, 2025

Sent Via Email

Oregon Secretary of State

Lydia Plukchi, Compliance Specialist: Lydia.PLUKCHI@sos.oregon.gov

Elections Division: elections.sos@sos.oregon.gov



Re: Nominees to Fill Vacancy – Senate District 26

Dear Secretary Read,

Pursuant to ORS 171.051, the Oregon Republican Party convened a Nominating Convention on October 18, 2025, for the purpose of selecting nominees to fill the vacancy in Senate District 26.

Following the proceedings of the Convention, the following three nominees (listed alphabetically by last name) were duly selected by acclamation to be forwarded to your office for consideration by the County Commissioners within Senate District 26:

1. Christine Drazan
2. John Grant
3. Jeffrey Helfrich

Please contact me if you require any further documentation or information.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Connie Whelchel

Connie Whelchel

Chairwoman, Oregon Republican Party

connie.whelchel@oregon.gop | 541.905.7380

Legislative Vacancy
Statement of Nominee's Willingness to Serve

SEL 145

Rev. 01/2010 OMS 171-080

This filing is an

☒ Nomination

☐ Election

Office Information

Office of: State Senator

District: 26

Party Affiliation: Republican

Nominee Information

Name of Nominee

First

MI

Last

Suffix

Christine

Drazen

Residence/Route Address

Street Address or PO Box

PO Box 196

City

Canby

State

OR

Zip

97015

Work Phone

Home Phone

Cell Phone

Fax

503-680-6387

Email Address (required)

christine@christinefororegon.com

Web Site, if applicable

By signing this document, I hereby state that I will accept the appointment for the office indicated above



Warning

Supplying false information on this form may result in conviction of a felony with a fine of up to \$125,000 and/or prison for up to 5 years. (ORS 260.715).

Christine Drazen
Nominee's Signature

10/11/2025
Date Signed

For Office Use Only Initials LP

Legislative Vacancy

Statement of Nominee's Willingness to Serve

SEL 145

rev 01/20 ORS 171.050

This filing is an

☒ Nomination☐ Election**Office Information**

Office of: Senate

District: 26

Party Affiliation: Republican

Nominee Information**Name of Nominee**

First

MI

Last

Suffix

John

A

Grant

IV

Residence/Route Address

Work Phone

Home Phone

Cell Phone

(619)977-0261

Fax

Email Address (required)

johnagrnt4@hotmail.com

Web Site, if applicable

By signing this document, I hereby state that I will accept the appointment for the office indicated above

**Warning**

Supplying false information on this form may result in conviction of a felony with a fine of up to \$125,000 and/or prison for up to 5 years. (ORS 260.715).

Nominee's Signature

Date Signed

Legislative Vacancy
Statement of Nominee's Willingness to Serve

SEL 145

rev 01/20 ORS 171.060

This filing is an

☒ **Nomination**

☐ **Election**

Office Information

Office of: **State Senate**

District: **26**

Party Affiliation: **Republican**

Nominee Information

Name of Nominee

First

MI

Last

Suffix

Jeffrey

A

Helfrich

Work Phone

Home Phone

Cell Phone

503 313-2477

Fax

Email Address (required)

jeff@jeffhelfrich.com

Web Site, if applicable

By signing this document, I hereby state that I will accept the appointment for the office indicated above



Warning

Supplying false information on this form may result in conviction of a felony with a fine of up to \$125,000 and/or prison for up to 5 years. (ORS 260.715).

Nominee's Signature

10-06-2025

Date Signed

For Office Use Only Initials

LP

Attachment D

From: [Steve Bates](#)
To: [Savas, Paul](#); [Helm, Diana](#); [West, Ben](#); [Schrader, Martha](#); [Roberts, Craig](#); [BCCMail](#); [jennifer.euwer@hoodrivercounty.gov](#); [leticia.moretti@hoodrivercounty.gov](#); [chad.muenzer@hoodrivercounty.gov](#); [ed.weathers@hoodrivercounty.gov](#); [arthur.babitz@hoodrivercounty.gov](#); [adminstration@hoodrivercounty.gov](#); [ScottH@co.wasco.or.us](#); [PhilB@co.wasco.or.us](#); [JeffJ@co.wasco.or.us](#); [ChristineMc@wasco.or.us](#); [mult.chair@multco.us](#); [district1@multco.us](#); [district2@multco.us](#); [district3@multco.us](#); [district4@multco.us](#)
Subject: Senate District 26 deserves a Senator, not a Gubernatorial Candidate
Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2025 1:14:52 PM

Warning: External email. Be cautious opening attachments and links.



Commissioners,

Please consider these facts as you prepare to cast your vote for the appointment of a new Senator to Senate District 26 tomorrow afternoon:

Over the past few months, news outlets have been speculating if Christine Drazan will run for Governor in 2026. Yesterday, in a meeting with significant members of the Oregon Capitol Club (lobbyists), Christine Drazan announced she will be running for Governor.

When asked why she was seeking the appointment to Senate District 26, it is said she responded that she can raise campaign funds during the 2026 Legislative Session as a Senator which she cannot do as a House member.

While it is legal, to seek an appointment to an office with the intent to use that office to seek another office, **it is unfair to the electorate**. The electorate deserves a Senator that is not distracted by other endeavors.

While this is legal, **it is not necessarily honorable**. **It is self serving, which is the opposite of what a Senator should be.**

Senate District 26 deserves the appointment of one who will be a Senator, not a candidate for another office.

Representative Jeff Helfrich has served House District 52 with honor and integrity. He has stated he is not looking for another office.....he wants to be our Senator. He has the experience and track record to represent Senate District 26 well.

Please represent your electorate in Senate District 26 with a vote to appoint a Senator, not a Gubernatorial Candidate.

Thank you,

Steve Bates
Boring, Oregon

Senate District 26 Constituent

Sources:

Willamette Week August 13, 2025

Drazan Tests Water for 2026 Run For Governor

Willamette Week October 9, 2025

Nigel Jaquiss reported: "A Senate seat would offer the ability to fundraise for a potential run during the February Short Session - A step House Rules prohibit"

From: [Nicole Chaisson](#)
To: [BCCMail](#)
Subject: Senate Appointment District 26 Endorsement
Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2025 9:51:52 AM

Warning: External email. Be cautious opening attachments and links.



Greetings County Commissioners,

I am writing to wholeheartedly endorse John Grant for appointment to the Oregon State Senate representing District 26. As a dedicated Seabee in the United States Navy, John served with distinction in the Construction Battalion, embodying the motto "We Build, We Fight" through hands-on engineering, leadership under pressure, and tireless contributions to vital infrastructure projects worldwide—instilling in him the unbreakable discipline and problem-solving acumen essential for effective public service.

John's extensive experience serving on numerous boards and committees throughout our community underscores his proven ability to collaborate effectively, drive meaningful policy, and represent diverse interests with integrity and foresight.

At his age he stands as the youngest hopeful for this position, offering a fresh, innovative perspective that will invigorate our district's representation. With his indigenous lineage John embodies the inclusive spirit of District 26, ensuring voices too often overlooked are amplified in Salem.

Furthermore, John's is not committed to run in the May primary election guarantees stability and focus during this interim period, allowing him to prioritize the urgent needs of our constituents without the distractions of a campaign.

I urge you to appoint John Grant to this vital seat—he is uniquely qualified to honor our shared values and advance the prosperity of Clackamas, Hood River, Multnomah, and Wasco Counties. Thank you for considering this recommendation. I am available to discuss further and can be reached at nchaisson@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Nicole Chaisson
The Dalles Oregon

From: [Caitlyn Grant](#)
Subject: John Grant for Senate District 26
Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2025 10:42:58 AM

Warning: External email. Be cautious opening attachments and links.

To the Honorable Selection Committee,

As the wife of John Grant, I am writing to express my strong support for his appointment as Senator for District 26. I have had the privilege of seeing firsthand the dedication, integrity, and unwavering sense of service that John brings to everything he does. His commitment to our community and his ability to lead with both strength and humility make him exceptionally well-suited to represent this district.

John has devoted countless hours to public service in a variety of roles. As the Wasco County Republican Chair and previous Vice Chair, he has worked tirelessly to bring people together and ensure that local voices are heard. His time on the City Planning Commission Board and the School Board Budget Committee demonstrates his passion for responsible growth, education, and fiscal stewardship.

As a U.S. Navy Veteran, John carries with him the discipline, honor, and courage instilled through his service to our country. He brings those same values home — whether being deeply involved in youth sports and local youth sport boards, volunteering in our community, or raising our children. As a Colville Tribal member, he is deeply proud of his heritage and approaches every endeavor with respect and focus.

I have watched John serve others with quiet strength, compassion, and conviction. He doesn't seek attention or recognition — he simply believes in doing what's right for the people he represents. I know, without question, that he would serve the people of District 26 with integrity, fairness, and dedication.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration of such a deserving candidate. It would be an honor for our family and community to see John continue his lifelong commitment to service as Senator for District 26.

With respect and gratitude,

Caitlyn Grant
Wife of John Grant
514-645-5554

From: [laurie kimmell](#)
To: [BCCMail](#)
Subject: Endorsement Letter for Christine Drazen
Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2025 3:58:11 PM
Attachments: [Endrs CD.pdf](#)

Warning: External email. Be cautious opening attachments and links.



Enclose is a letter of support for Christine Drazen.

Thank you,

LAURIE KIMMELL

Sent from [Outlook](#)

22 October 2025

TO: County Chairs, and members of the Clackamas, Hood River, Wasco and Board of Commissioners

FROM: Laurie Kimmell, MSgt, USAF (Ret.)

SUBJECT: Endorsement for Appointment to Senate District #26

ATTENTION: FOR ALL REVIEWING AUTHORITIES

1. Please accept this as my endorsement of Oregon House of Representative Christine Drazen. I am a veteran. Rep. Drazen has done more for veterans in the Oregon House of Representatives than any member. During her freshman year as representative she co-sponsored HB 2203 – 1 which would make every county in the state to have a Veterans Treatment Court. This specialty court would have diverted veterans from jail (only certain would charges would apply). This year Leader Drazen sponsored a House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) to honor eighteen Clackamas County Vietnam Veterans that were killed in action. The resolution passed in the Oregon House of Representative.
2. Representative Drazen has been nothing but an asset in the Oregon House of Representatives and for Clackamas County. I strongly urge you to promote her to the Oregon State Senate.

Thank you,

//SIGNED//

LAURIE KIMMELL, MSgt, USAF (Ret.)
Deputy Multnomah Co.. Sheriff Office (Ret.)

Attachment E

BEFORE THE CLACKAMAS, HOOD RIVER, MULTNOMAH AND WASCO
COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

In the matter of
Filling the Vacancy in the Legislative Assembly,
State Senate District 26

WHEREAS, in accordance with procedures established by the Secretary of State, the Clackamas, Hood River, Multnomah and Wasco County Board of Commissioners considered the nominations at a public meeting on October 23, 2025; and

WHEREAS, at the conclusion of the public meeting the appointing authority voted to appoint _____ (nominee) to fill the vacancy, said nominee having received the highest number of votes as indicated on the vote tabulation attached as Exhibit A,

NOW, THEREFORE, _____ is selected as the appointee to fill the vacancy in the Legislative Assembly, State Senate District 26;

This Statement shall promptly be forwarded to the Secretary of State as required by ORS 171.060(3).

ADOPTED this 23rd day of October 2025, By:

Craig Roberts
Chair, Clackamas County Commissioner

Paul Savas
Clackamas County Commissioner

Martha Schrader
Clackamas County Commissioner

Ben West
Clackamas County Commissioner

Diana Helm
Clackamas County Commissioner

Jennifer Euwer
Chair, Hood River County Commissioner

Ed Weathers
Hood River County Commissioner

Leticia Moretti
Hood River County Commissioner

Chad Muenzer
Hood River County Commissioner

Arthur Babitz
Hood River County Commissioner

Jessica Vega Pederson
Chair, Multnomah County Commissioner

Meghan Moyer
Multnomah County Commissioner

Shannon Singleton
Multnomah County Commissioner

Julia Brim-Edwards
Multnomah County Commissioner

Vince Jones-Dixon
Multnomah County Commissioner

Scott Hege
Chair, Wasco County Commissioner

Phil Brady
Wasco County Commissioner

Jeff Justesen
Wasco County Commissioner

EXHIBIT A
VOTE TABULATION

In the matter of filling the vacancy in the Legislative Assembly, State Senate District 26,
the following votes were cast at the public meeting held on October 23, 2025:

Nominee

Craig Roberts
Chair, Clackamas County Commissioner

Paul Savas
Clackamas County Commissioner

Martha Schrader
Clackamas County Commissioner

Ben West
Clackamas County Commissioner

Diana Helm
Clackamas County Commissioner

Jennifer Euwer
Chair, Hood River County Commissioner

Ed Weathers
Hood River County Commissioner

Leticia Moretti
Hood River County Commissioner

Chad Muenzer
Hood River County Commissioner

Arthur Babitz
Hood River County Commissioner

Jessica Vega Pederson
Chair, Multnomah County Commissioner

Meghan Moyer
Multnomah County Commissioner

Shannon Singleton
Multnomah County Commissioner

Julia Brim-Edwards
Multnomah County Commissioner

Vince Jones-Dixon
Multnomah County Commissioner

Scott Hege
Chair, Wasco County Commissioner

Phil Brady
Wasco County Commissioner

Jeff Justesen
Wasco County Commissioner
