

NOVEMBER 2020 GENERAL ELECTION

STATEWIDE OFFICES

Secretary of State

Shemia Fagan (D) is an employment law attorney and six-year state legislator. She challenged and toppled an incumbent Senate Democrat who stood in the way of tenant rights reform, and then she helped pass the nation's first statewide rent control law. The Oregon AFL-CIO named her working family champion of the year in 2019. She also voted against last year's bill to cut PERS contributions. She faces Kim Thatcher, a Republican state rep from Keizer. In Oregon, the Secretary of State oversees elections and ballot initiatives, business registration and state archives, and audits of state agencies, and becomes governor in case of a vacancy.

AFL-CIO, OBTC, AFSCME, AFT, IAFF, IBEW 48, LIUNA, OEA, OSEA, SEIU, UA 290, UBC, UFCW
ShemiaForOregon.com



State Treasurer

Tobias Read (D), as incumbent state treasurer, passed a policy requiring the use of responsible construction and building service contractors wherever the state owns a majority of a real estate investment. He also worked to successfully implement the union-suggested Oregon Saves retirement savings plan for workers who don't otherwise have a retirement plan through their employer. AFL-CIO, OBTC, AFSCME, AFT, IAFF, IBEW 48, LIUNA, IBT, OEA, OSEA, SEIU, UA 290, UFCW, WFP
TobiasRead.com

Attorney General

Ellen Rosenblum (D), a former federal prosecutor and judge, is seeking a third term. AFL-CIO, OBTC, AFSCME, IAFF, IAM, IBEW 48, OEA, ONA, OSEA, SEIU, SMART, UBC, UFCW, WFP
EllenRosenblum.com

OREGON SENATE

Senate District 2 (Grants Pass)

Jerry Allen (D), a farmer, health educator, and fire district volunteer, faces Art Robinson (R) to succeed Senate Republican leader Herman Baertschiger, who decided not to run again after shutting down the legislature with several walkouts. Robinson is a chemist best known for running against Congressman Peter DeFazio every two years since 2010. AFSCME, CWA, OEA, SEIU, WFP

JerryAllenForSenate.com

Senate District 5 (Coos Bay)

Melissa Cribbins (D) faces Lincoln City Mayor Dick Anderson (R) and Lakeside City Councilor Shaileen Higgins of the Green Party. Cribbins is a supporter of the Jordan Cove liquid natural gas project. Getting her into office is a top priority for labor. AFL-CIO, OBTC, AFSCME, IAFF, LIUNA, OEA, ONA, SEIU, UFCW, UA 290
MelissaCribbins.com

Senate District 10 (Salem)

Deb Patterson (D) is a pastor at a church in Canby, a home care worker, and member of

SEIU Local 503. She's also a graduate of the Oregon Labor Candidate School, which prepares union members to run for office. Two years ago, she got 46% of the vote in a challenge to longtime Republican incumbent Jackie Winters. Now she faces Denyc Boles (R) who was appointed when Winters died in 2019. Boles has been on the opposite side of the union movement on virtually every vote, and in 2019 voted against a bill to expand the prevailing wage in construction. In 2020 she took part in the Republican walkout that shut down the legislative session. A win for Patterson could tip the Oregon Senate in a more pro-labor direction. AFL-CIO, OBTC, AAUP, AFSCME, AFT, IBEW 280, IBT, LIUNA, OEA, OSEA, SEIU, UFCW, UA 290
DebbieForOregon.com

Senate District 12 (Dallas)

Bernadette Hansen (D), a former legislative aide and watershed council director, is challenging incumbent Brian Boquist (R). Boquist got nationwide press last year after he threatened Senate President Peter Courtney and state police during the GOP walkout to stop a climate change bill. As a result, he was ordered to give 12 hours notice to the Oregon State police before entering the Capitol. AF-

SCME, OEA, OSEA BernadetteHansen.com

Brian Boquist (R), incumbent, is a retired army lieutenant colonel. OBTC

Senate District 14 (Beaverton)

Kate Lieber (D) is a former domestic abuse prosecutor who teaches criminal justice at PCC and chairs the Board of the homeless non-profit Transition Projects. She faces Harmony Mulkey (R) in the race to succeed Democrat Mark Hass, who ran unsuccessfully in the Democratic primary for secretary of state. AFL-CIO, OBTC, AFSCME, AFT, IAFF, IBEW 48, IUPAT, LIUNA, OEA, OFNHP, OSEA, SEIU, UBC, UA 290, UFCW
KateForOregon.com

Senate District 25 (Gresham)

Chris Gorsek (D), an instructor at Mt. Hood Community College, member of AFT-Oregon, and former police officer, has served as state rep since 2012 and has received the state AFL-CIO's top rating for his pro-labor votes and work, including showing up on picket lines and voting against PERS cuts. Now he's running to succeed Democrat Laurie Monnes-Anderon. AFL-CIO, AFSCME, AFT, IAFF, IBEW 48, LIUNA, ONA, OSEA, UA 290, UFCW, WFP
ChrisGorsek.com

Justin Hwang (R) is a first-generation Korean immigrant and owner of Joy Teriyaki and Joy Poke. He pledges to oppose tax increases. OBTC
JustinForOregon.com

Senate District 27 (Bend)

Eileen Kiely (D), a retired financial controller, is challenging incumbent Tim Knopp (R). The district is trending more Democratic, and backers think it could flip this year. AFSCME, IBT, OEA, OFNHP, SEIU Kiely4OR.com

Tim Knopp (R) voted against the paid sick leave law, but for the fair scheduling law. He's seen as a GOP lawmaker willing to work with labor and plays a helpful role within the GOP caucus. UA 290, UFCW TimKnopp.com

Senate District 28 (Klamath Falls)

Hugh Palcic (D), general manager of the Sunriver Owners Association, faces incumbent Dennis Linthicum (R). AFSCME
HughPalcic.com

Senate District 30 (SE Oregon)

Carina Miller faces incumbent Lynn Findley (R). OEA, SEIU CarinaMiller.com

What a union endorsement means

Union members, and even unions, don't always agree on how to vote, but a union endorsement is a piece of information voters can use when making that decision. Unions vary in the process they use to generate recommendations, but ultimately all are organizations with a mission of defending workers, and a leadership that's elected by members.

The largest and most politically active labor organizations tend to have the most robust processes for vetting candidates and measures. At the Oregon AFL-CIO, Oregon AFSCME, IBEW Local 48 United Association of Plumbers and Fitters Local 290, and UFCW Local 555, the process starts when candidates seeking endorsement fill out a questionnaire, saying where they stand on workers rights, infrastructure investment, and economic policy.

A number of unions, including Local 290 and Oregon AFSCME, have volunteer political action committees that are open to any member. Before those committees make an endorsement recommendation, they spend many hours interviewing candidates (and educating them about union issues while they're at it.) Oregon AFSCME organizes panel interviews, open to any member, and after that the panels make recommendations to a 34-member statewide political action committee.

At multi-union federations like the Oregon AFL-CIO and the Northwest Oregon Labor Council, endorsement requires the support of unions representing at least two-thirds of affiliated members. But most of the time, their endorsement votes are unanimous.

"The reality is, organized labor isn't a special interest," says Local 555 political director Thomas Mosher. "It's how working people have a voice."

LABOR IS THE BACKBONE OF A THRIVING COMMUNITY. WE NEED OUR ELECTED LEADERSHIP TO ADVOCATE FOR PLA'S, WORKFORCE HOUSING, FAIR WAGES, AND HEALTHY, SAFE WORKING CONDITIONS FOR ALL.

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