



The Paul Holvey Recall: **MYTHS** vs **FACTS**

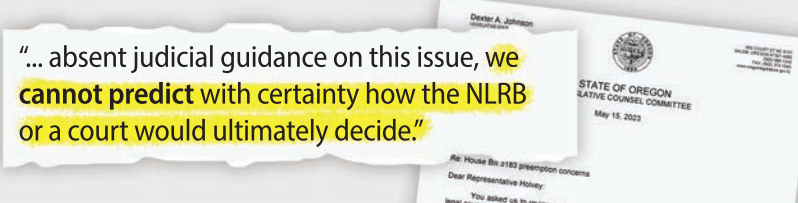
Paul Holvey has made a lot of reasonable-sounding claims. But when we **examine the facts**, his claims don't hold up.

MYTH: #1 **Holvey had to tank a workers' rights bill (HB 3183) because legislative attorneys said it was illegal.**

FACT: They never said that.

Rep. Holvey blamed his opposition to HB 3183, a bill to ensure cannabis workers had organizing rights, on legislative attorneys. He said: "Our Legislative Counsel confirmed twice that the proposed legislation was in fact preempted by federal law and would not be legal." (From his website as of June 29)

But actually they had to remind him in a May 15 letter that's not what they said. According to that letter, they had predicted what kinds of arguments might be used if someone were to challenge the bill, but were clear that they did not say that the bill was illegal. Rep. Holvey sent the bill to the Rules Committee to die anyway, where it was declared dead by Rep. Julie Fahey.



MYTH: #2 **Representative Holvey has an especially pro-labor record in the Legislature.**

FACT: He's below average in his caucus.

It's natural that Rep. Holvey would want to give his record the best spin possible: "I have been a champion for labor my entire career ... in the legislature." (From his website as of Aug 8)

But the fact is that Holvey's voting record is rated no better than the Democratic caucus generally, and in some cases is dismally near the bottom of it. According to 2022 union "scorecards":

- ✗ For AFSCME*, Rep. Holvey voted in favor of all their priority bills, just like all House Democrats, but failed to be one of their designated "Legislative Champions," an honor that was even given to at least one Republican.
- ✗ For the Oregon Education Association*, Rep. Holvey managed to score an "83%," which is a B- if you're trying to pass a class, but was worse than 31 of his fellow House Democrats out of 37.

Add to that Rep. Holvey's consistent support of slashing pension benefits (SB 822 in 2013 and SB 1049 in 2019), and it's a record that just doesn't reflect the values of District 8.

* In fairness, we remind readers that AFSCME Council 75 and OEA are supporting Holvey.

MYTH: #3 **Holvey is somehow being targeted for a recall because he asked too many questions**

FACT: Holvey asked zero questions.

From Rep. Holvey's website: "This recall effort was launched... because I asked questions about a potential piece of legislation [HB 3183] they were pushing. Asking questions is foundational to the job of being a State Representative" (From his website as of Aug 8)

If that's true, he's falling down on the job. Use the QR code below to find the video feed of the hearing for the bill and see if you think Holvey was asking any questions. Rep. Holvey didn't ask questions and he didn't want answers... because it's easier to kill a bill if you can claim that your questions were left unanswered.

Stage in the life of HB 3183	Questions asked by Holvey
Conceptual drafts first circulated widely (Sep. '22)	0
Outreach to Holvey's office (Sep '22 - Mar '23)	0
Legislative Counsel draft released (Jan '23)	0
Public hearing (Mar '23)	0
Policy expert flown in specifically for questions (Mar '23)	0



MYTH: #4 **Representative Holvey is just careful about avoiding unintended consequences.**

FACT: Not when it's for big business.

According to Rep. Holvey, his killing of last session's workers' rights bill was to: "[ensure] there are no unintended consequences to our community and the people of Oregon." (From his website as of Aug 8)

But that's a false excuse, because when it comes to favors for big business or anti-worker advocates, Holvey hasn't cared about unintended consequences:

- ✗ In 2012, Holvey voted to allow 30-year contracts where taxpayers would cover certain big business losses. Holvey voted in favor of the bill several hours after it was released. (With no legal analysis on record.)
- ✗ In 2013, Holvey supported SB 822 which slashed public employee pensions by more than \$4 billion... until it ended up getting overturned by the Supreme Court.
- ✗ In 2019, Holvey took the lead on trying to slash pension benefits again. Through some creative re-defining of terms, the bill managed to pass muster after a costly legal battle.

But when it comes to helping workers, Holvey finds a reason not to.

Curious about any further information about these or other claims? Check out www.RecallPaulHolvey.com/myths-and-facts
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Paul Holvey is not a bad person.
... but we deserve a better State Representative.