

Lawmakers will consider pay, PERS, bargaining rights

OPEU early legislative endorsements

Twenty-eight candidates for the Legislature, one for Labor Commissioner, and one for the state Supreme Court have been endorsed early by the OPEU/SEIU Local 503 Board of Directors upon the recommendation of the CAPE Board.

All have extensive public records in support of public employee and labor issues. The endorsements of the legislative candidates were based on their voting record, committee performance, accessibility, and contact with OPEU/SEIU Local 503 members in the districts they represent.

House of Representatives

Tony Federici

District 1, St. Helens

An accessible Revenue Committee member who supported the need for tax reform.

Tim Josi

District 2, Tillamook

A two-term supporter of public employee issues.

Hedy Rijken

District 4, Newport

A consistent supporter of OPEU and public employee issues with a perfect voting record, who has faced a difficult General Election contest in the past.

Mary Alice Ford

District 8, Portland

A key Republican vote on last session's "triple freeze" bill who is a consistent champion on human resources issues, facing a Primary Election challenge.

Tom Mason

District 11, Portland

An outspoken and staunch supporter of working people and the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Act.

Gail Shibley

District 12, Portland

A public employee and one of the rising stars of the Legislature who is articulate and effective.

Kate Brown

District 13, Portland

Whether it's women's rights, union rights, or a balanced tax system, an articulate rising star in the Legislature.

George Eighmey

District 14, Portland

A strong supporter of OPEU, now serving on the Commerce Committee which is looking at contracting out and the collective bargaining law. Appointed to fill a vacancy, he is facing a Primary opponent in his first election, and deserves our support.

Lisa Naito

District 15, Portland

An accessible lawmaker with a good voting record who is a sincere advocate for human services with the courage to stand up for her convictions.

Frank Shields

District 16, Portland

A first-term legislator who was a tireless and fearless advocate for public services from his seat on the Ways and Means Committee.

Margaret Carter

District 18, Portland

A strong supporter of OPEU issues who greeted the marchers on the steps of the Capitol during the June 5 Public Employee March & Rally. A Revenue Committee member advocating for tax reform that benefits working people.

Avel Gordly

District 19, Portland

Strong advocate for social justice who keeps the big picture in mind.

Lonnie Roberts

District 21, Portland

Always accessible, always willing to hear our concerns and act on those concerns when persuaded.

Larry Sowa

District 26, Oregon City

Consistently votes with labor; supports public employees.

Marilyn Dell

District 29, McMinnville

A freshman and strong supporter of OPEU issues who faces a strong General Election challenge.

Kevin Mannix

District 32, Salem

An influential and visible supporter of a variety of OPEU issues who paid particular attention last session to our members who work at Oregon State Hospital and the Oregon State Correctional Institution.

Peter Courtney

District 33, Salem

The leader of Democrats in the House, a vocal supporter of public employee issues, making a strong effort to return his party to the majority.

John Schoon

District 34, Rickreall

A Republican who was a key vote on last session's "triple freeze" bill who greeted marchers on the steps of the Capitol during the June 5 Public Employee March & Rally. A proponent of tax reform on the Revenue Committee. Facing an opponent in the May Primary and deserves our support.

Cynthia Wooten

District 41, Eugene

A consistent and reliable supporter of OPEU.

Lee Beyer

District 42, Springfield

An effective spokesperson of our issues on the key Commerce Labor Subcommittee.

Tony Corcoran

District 44, Cottage Grove

OPEU/SEIU Local 503 organizer based in the Eugene office running for an open seat previously held by a Democrat. The Primary is the key election in this race.

State Senate

Joan Dukes

District 1, Astoria

Always accessible, always willing to speak out on behalf of public employees and our issues.

Randy Leonard

District 9, Portland

A firefighter and former union lobbyist who was a strong participant in the PERS Coalition. Appointed to the Legislature following the session to fill a vacancy, he's facing his first election.

Tricia Smith

District 17, Salem

One of the Legislature's strongest and visible proponents of public employee and women's issues. She was honored by the state Commission for Women as a Woman of Achievement for her sponsorship of the 1993 Oregon Women's Health and Wellness Act. She is a speaker at many PERS Coalition and Union functions, including the June 5 Public Employee March & Rally. She faces Primary and General Election opposition.

Cliff Trow

District 18, Corvallis

An articulate and strong-willed fighter and defender of Higher Education and Human Resources as cochair of the Ways and Means Committee.

Pete Sorenson

District 20, Eugene

Appointed to fill a vacancy, he faces his first election in a district that is important to keep to maintain the Democratic majority in the Senate. Worked with us on the Ballot Measure 7 campaign.

Bill Dwyer

District 21, Springfield

A union member and influential member of the Ways and Means Committee who carries with him a concern for working families.

Karsten Rasmussen

District 22, Eugene

Appointed to a vacated seat early in the session; facing his first election. Willing to listen to OPEU concerns and voted for them when persuaded.

Mary Wendy Roberts

Commissioner of Labor & Industries

A strong supporter of union who championed Parental Leave legislation, the Family Medical Leave Act, and Equal Rights Legislation.

Robert Durham

Oregon Supreme Court

Recently elevated to the Supreme Court from a seat on the state Court of Appeals. Prior to his judicial career, he was a highly respected labor attorney in Portland representing public employee unions.