

Legislature adjourns after doling out billions

By ERIC A. HOWALD
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HOW KEIZER'S LEGISLATORS VOTED ON SOME OF the biggest issues



Flush with an influx of federal aid, the 2021 Oregon Legislative Session ended with a flurry of activity on Saturday, June 26.

Wildfires, social justice matters and helping the state recover from the pandemic topped the agenda for legislators.

Among the massive amounts allocated for various projects were:

- \$9.3 billion to K-12 education.
- \$700 million in efforts to expand affordable housing.
- Nearly \$600 million for wildfire recovery and prevention.
- \$350 million investment in behavioral health, with investments in workforce development, grants for innovative community investments.
- \$150 million to cover overdue rent payments.
- \$150 million for a Landlord Compensation Fund.
- \$120 million in broadband expansion statewide.

"This session has marked a turning point for Oregon. I am pleased that today, coming out of session, we are better positioned to address the key challenges facing Oregonians: the public health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, wildfire recovery and preparedness, and taking steps to end systemic racism and address racial disparities in Oregon," said Gov. Kate Brown in a press release.

Infographic by ANDREW JACKSON/Keizertimes

BILL	Effects	Rep. Bill Post	Sen. Kim Thatcher	Passed?
HCR 11	Modifies the lyrics to the state song, which is viewed by many as overtly and covertly racist, to reflect the evolution of the state.	Nay	Aye	Yes
HB 2021	Requires PGE and Pacific Power to submit plans to reduce emissions by 80% from a baseline amount by 2030, 90% by 2035, and completely eliminate emissions by 2040.	Nay	Nay	Yes
HB 2929	Requires police officers to report violations of certain minimum standards and requires investigation.	Aye	Aye	Yes
HB 3115	Restricts how cities can enforce anti-camping laws and grants leniency to unsheltered individuals.	Nay	Nay	Yes
HB 3291	Allows ballots that are postmarked by Election Day to be counted if received within seven days after Election Day.	Nay	Nay	Yes
SB 317	Allows the serving of cocktails-to-go.	Excused	Nay	Yes
SB 554	Requires gun owners to secure firearms in locked containers or with trigger or cable locks.	Nay	Absent	Yes
SB 582	Requires producers of paper, plastic and other materials to fund new initiatives aimed at collecting and recycling more of their materials. Requires membership in producer responsibility association with dues that can be reduced based on the success of the business' efforts.	Nay	Nay	Yes
SB 762	Allocates nearly \$200 million to state agencies to mitigate wildfire's impact on Oregon's landscape, adapt communities to smoke, map out fire risks, and fund forest restoration projects.	Aye	Nay	Yes
SB 5514	Allocating \$9.3 billion to K-12 schools for the next two years.	Aye	Nay	Yes

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