Yesterday

42/39/0.77

46/24/0.00

29/28/0.00

58/36/0.00

32/23/0.00 49/24/0.00 44/30/Tr 74/46/0.00 32/29/0.00

31/18/0.00

35/32/0.03

77/60/0.00

32/20/0.01

36/24/0.00

49/28/Tr

74/44/0.00

31/22/0.00

40/23/0.00 67/44/0.00 39/23/0.00 33/16/0.00 39/20/0.00

48/27/0.02

50/24/0.00

46/26/0.02

39/23/0.06

60/35/0.00

70/43/0.00

63/40/0.00

48/43/0.60

37/27/0.00 40/34/0.02 37/24/0.00 73/50/0.00 63/45/0.00

44/29/0.00

48/21/0.00

68/48/0.00

82/61/0.00 67/46/0.00

32/19/0.08

18/14/0 27

21/16/0.18

86/76/0.02

48/36/0.00

83/75/0.25

54/52/0.46

78/51/0.00

53/19/Tr

Today

45/30/s

33/27/pc

48/30/s

36/29/pc

34/25/pc 47/25/pc 50/39/pc 42/31/pc 43/30/pc

47/32/pc 53/26/9

45/27/s

70/48/9 37/29/s 44/30/s 66/39/s 37/29/pc 38/22/pc

42/26/pc

54/35/pc

51/27/pc

62/46/0

59/41/pc

55/44/

44/25/s 44/40/r 51/29/s 66/51/d

65/32/s

55/30/s

48/32/s

47/42/r

68/37/s

85/68/pc 71/46/pc

32/24/c 12/10/c

21/16/pc

87/76/pg

81/76/t

58/49/pc

80/58/s 45/39/r

40/35/1

39/31/c

62/45/s

50/37/pc

39/32/pc

39/30/pi

52/35/pc

41/33/pc

55/34/s

59/29/pc

54/33/s

64/45/0

71/49/s

62/39/pc

50/37/

51/35/s

89/69/pc

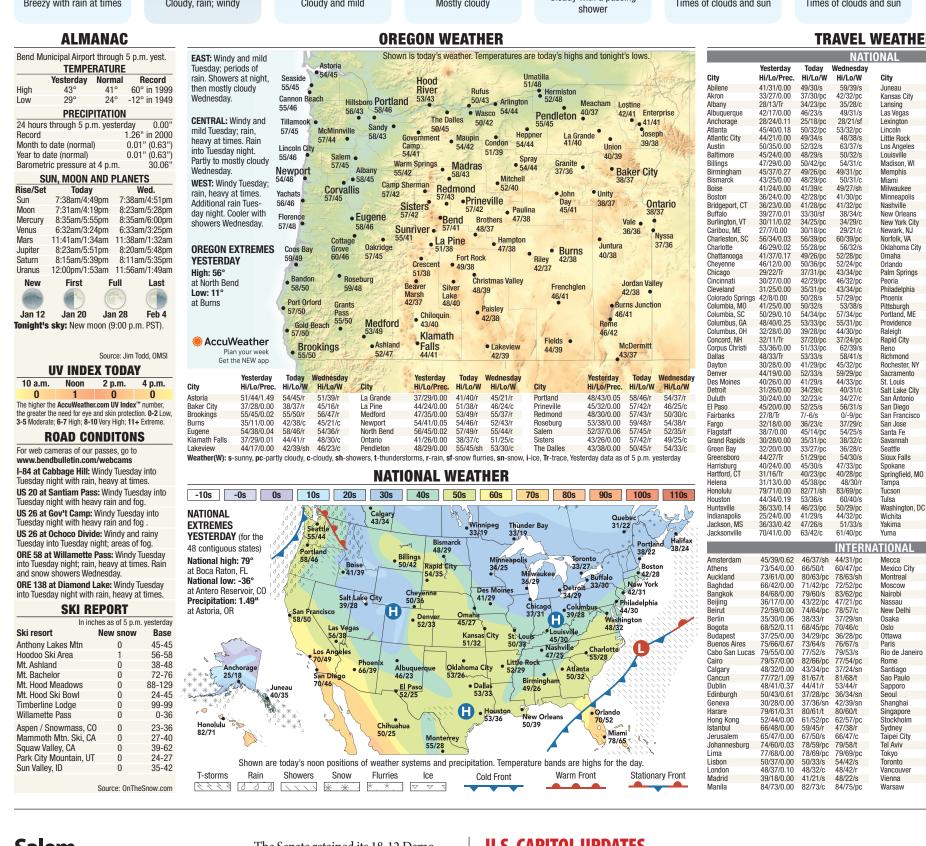
49/38/pc

22/12/sf

86/75/s

81/76/sh

79/54/0



### Salem

### **Continued from A1**

The rules turned out to be the main sticking point.

With majorities in both the House and Senate, Democrats pushed to begin the session on time. They argued that the long list of crises — ĆOVID-19, unemployment, recovery from the massive wildfires, police reform and equity issues vas too pressing to delay. Lawmakers would use a mix of virtual meetings and hearings, coming to Salem only for final votes on bills.

"Physical presence is not absolutely crucial," to have public input, said Rep. Paul Holvey, D-Eugene.

Democrats noted the rules include a provision allowing the public into the Capitol when the infection rates drop to safe levels. Marion County, which include Salem, would have to move into the low risk category, the bottom of the state's four tiers of risk level. The county is currently in the extreme risk list, the highest tier. İnfection rates skyrocketed in Oregon between September and today, making the threshold for reopening unknown, but distant.

The virus has killed more than 1,600 people in the state out of 126,607 cases of the infection. Nationwide there are over 375,000 dead and over two million killed around the world.

Republicans argued that public hearings in the Capitol were necessary to hear from all constituents, not just those proficient with Zoom meetings.

Rep. Bill Post, R-Keizer, suggested it would be best to move the session start date from January to April, with lawmakers meeting into the summer. By spring, lawmakers could be inoculated with vaccines and the virus would hopefully be tamped down from its current spike. Public hearings might be a reachable goal.

"Let's delay the whole session," Post said. "Let's just put this thing off."

In the meantime, the Legislature's Emergency Board, a large committee of top legislators from both chambers and both parties, could deal with anything that needed immediate attention.

Along a party-line vote, the rules were adopted. Democrats also pushed through a rule to fine members \$500 per day for any unexcused absences. It was aimed at the kind of Republican walk-out that killed the 2020 session over a carbon cap

Despite a bruising national election, the partisan split in the Legislature barely budged from the 2018 results.

Democrats lost one seat in the House, but still have a 37-23 edge over Republicans. The supermajority of 60% of the seats allows Democrats to pass taxes and other financial bills without GOP votes.

The Senate retained its 18-12 Democratic supermajority, though one Republican seat is currently vacant and will be filled by appointment soon.

Among the new lawmakers were winners of races that flipped districts from one party to another.

Rep. Jason Kropf, D-Bend, is the first Democrat in a decade to represent House District 54, which includes Bend. Republicans had held the seat in five straight elections despite an ever-growing voter registration edge for Democrats. The streak finally ended in November when Kropf defeated Rep. Cheri Helt, R-Bend.

Underlining the importance of the Democratic foothold east of the Cascades, Kropf, 50, was given the plum assignment of vice chair of the House Committee on Economic Recovery and Prosperity. Freshmen rarely are assigned a ranking position on committees. The panel will be the main House funnel for recovery from COVID-19 and wildfires that burned over 1 million acres.

Kropf said he got a firsthand preview of the tasks ahead when he drove over the Cascades from Bend. The route to Salem took him past scorched earth and some of the 4,000 homes that were destroyed statewide. He arrived at an empty, lockeddown Capitol, which has been closed since March due to COVID-19. Inside were legislators, a skeleton staff, police and journalists.

"It showed how much work we have to do to get the state to bounce back," Kropf said in an interview. "We have to make sure everyone gets healthy."

Kropf said the prosperity part of the committee name means getting businesses back on their feet after nearly a year of on-and-off restrictions. Fixing the hobbled unemployment benefits system and getting children back to classrooms are also priorities.

One of the chores for the Legislature is redrawing the political map of the state by reapportioning districts based on the 2020 Census. All House members and half of the Senate will be running in newly refigured districts in 2022. The other 15 senators who won their seats in 2020 will have new districts, but don't face voters again until 2024.

As expected, Rep. Tina Kotek, D-Portland, won a fifth two-year term as Speaker of the House. Sen. Peter Courtney, D-Salem, was reelected as Senate President for a record 10th time, a spot he has held for most of the past 20 years.

With the organizational business done, the House started to introduce the over-1,000 new bills and resolutions. A clerk read the titles.

First up:

"House Concurrent Resolution 1, naming the onion as the official state vegetable." gwarner@eomediagroup.com

### **U.S. CAPITOL UPDATES**

# House speeds to impeach

The Associated Press and Washington Post Poised to impeach, the House sped ahead Monday with plans

to oust President Donald Trump

from office, warning he is a threat Trump faces a single charge — "incitement of insurrection"

— after the deadly Capitol riot in an impeachment resolution that the House will begin debating Wednesday. At the same time, the FBI warned ominously Monday of potential armed protests in Washington and

many states by Trump loyalists ahead of President-elect Joe Biden's inauguration, Jan. 20. In a dark foreshadowing, the Washington Monument was closed to the public amid the threats of disruption. Acting Homeland Security Secretary Chad Wolf abruptly resigned. It all added up to stunning final

moments for Trump's presidency as Democrats and a growing number of Republicans declare he is unfit for office and could do more damage after inciting a mob that violently ransacked the U.S. Capitol last Wednesday.

"President Trump gravely en-

### More developments Monday

- Up to 15,000 National Guard members could be deployed in Washington during the presidential inauguration, senior defense officials said.
- **Ren Ronnie Watson Coleman**, a 75-year-old cand tive for the coronavirus after taking shelter in a room with other lawmakers, some of whom refused to wear masks, during last week's violent takeover.
- William Burns, a diplomat with vast foreign policy experience, was chosen Monday as Biden's CIA director.
- At least two U.S. Capitol Police officers have been suspended and more than a dozen others are under investigation for suspected involvement with or inappropriate support for the demonstration that became a riot.

dangered the security of the United States and its institutions of Government," reads the four-page impeachment bill.

Rep. Liz Cheney, R-Wyo., encouraged House GOP colleagues late Monday to "vote your conscience," according to a person granted anonymity to discuss the private call. She has spoken critically of Trump's actions, but has not said publicly how she will vote.

Pending impeachment, Democrats called on Vice President Mike Pence and the Cabinet to invoke their constitutional authority under the 25th Amendment to remove

Trump from office before Inauguration Day. The Democrats' House resolution was blocked by Republicans. However, the full House is to hold a roll call vote on it Tuesday, and it is expected to pass. After that, Pelosi said, Pence will have 24 hours to respond. Next would be the impeachment proceedings.

The president-elect suggested splitting the Senate's time, perhaps "go a half day on dealing with impeachment, a half day on getting my people nominated and confirmed in the Senate, as well as moving on the package" for more COVID relief.

## **Summit**

### **Continued from A1**

Teachers at Summit are scared of returning to teaching in-person, Williams said.

He understands the school district will enact measures to keep staff safe, but that only goes so far when teenagers make bad choices, he said.

'We know outside of school, they're not always making the best decisions," Williams said. "They're not wearing masks, piling in cars to go up to (Mt.)

If the school board and superintendent choose to not postpone the Feb. 8 reopening date, Williams said the 47 Summit teachers will discuss their next steps. They might consider not showing up to in-person

school, but that has not been decided yet, he said. "I can't emphasize enough that we want to get back into classrooms too, perhaps more than anybody," Williams told The Bulletin. "We want to do it safely,

and we want our leaders to help us do that." There was a small gathering in front of the Bend-La Pine Administrative Building late Monday afternoon, with several dozen people asking the district to continue offering distance learning as a safe

alternative to in-person school. Williams said the Summit teachers' letter wasn't sponsored by the Bend Education Association teachers' union. Last week, teachers' union President Sarah Barclay said her union would not delay the start of in-person school until vaccines are available for teachers.

Teachers' unions from five large Oregon school districts, including Portland, Salem-Keizer and Eugene, wrote a similar letter to Gov. Kate Brown last week, according to Oregon Public Broadcasting.

Superintendent Nordquist and multiple school board members did not respond to requests for comment.

Certain Bend-La Pine staff members who work with vulnerable populations of students — including life skills teachers and educational assistants, educators of students with visual and hearing impairments, English Language Learner specialists and more will begin getting their first vaccinations Wednesday, according to Julianne Repman, director of safety and communications for Bend-La Pine. More than 430 staffers will receive an invitation to schedule a vaccination appointment this week, she wrote in an email.

Vaccination of other educators is expected to begin

in February, Repman wrote. The school board is expected to discuss school reopening at its Tuesday night meeting. The meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. and will be streamed on the school board's YouTube channel.

Reporter: 541-617-7854, jhogan@bendbulletin.com