



PRESS RELEASE  
REP. DWAYNE YUNKER  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 3

---

For Immediate Release:  
February 1, 2024

Contact: Mary Beth Miller  
marybeth.miller@oregonlegislature.gov

## **Representative Dwayne Yunker announces his Reform Oregon priorities for 2024**

*Newest member of the Oregon House of Representatives  
outlines his commonsense priorities for Oregon*

SALEM — Today, Representative Dwayne Yunker (R-Josephine County) announced his commonsense priorities and values in advance of the 82nd Oregon Legislative Assembly, which convenes Monday.

### About Dwayne

Dwayne is excited to be serving in the Oregon House of Representatives to help bring much needed reform to state government. He was appointed by the Josephine County Board of Commissioners in December to represent House District 3, Josephine County after former representative Lily Morgan resigned.

Located in southwest Oregon, Josephine County is known for its pioneer tradition, beautiful scenery and year-round great weather, and abundant outdoor recreation.

Dwayne has been serving his country since enlisting in the military as a junior at Hidden Valley High School in Grants Pass. He is a decorated veteran, volunteer member of the Grants Pass City Council, and respected real estate entrepreneur in the Grants Pass business community.

### The need for new leadership

“The need for new leadership in Oregon couldn’t be greater,” said Dwayne. “Democrats have been in power here for decades, driving the state into a ditch. Now we’re at a breaking point. Rampant homelessness, addiction, and crime. Overregulation strangling innovation and putting a strain on state coffers. All while the Oregon Democrats continue their off-the-rails spending. Oregon’s 2023-25 budget is \$121.261 billion, almost a third of this is spent by the Oregon Health Authority. This works out to an average of about \$37,000 per Oregon family each year. I don’t think families are happy about how their money is being spent. I know I’m not.”

### The problems this session

In a press conference yesterday, Oregon Gov. Tina Kotek previewed her party’s 2024 legislative session plan to ask for more taxpayer money.

Dwayne is concerned that the governor’s \$500,000,000 housing bill is just a windfall for the Democrats’ low-income housing and climate activist special interest group friends. As a realtor, he knows these giveaways will do little to truly solve Oregon’s housing shortage.

He is also concerned that the Democrats’ supposed fix to Measure 110 won’t be enough to compel addicts to get treatment and thus won’t solve Oregon’s homeless and public safety crisis. Instead, he will push for the House Republicans’ End Measure 110 bill that is free from Oregon Health Authority mandates which could break the budget, hamstringing local law enforcement, and undermine public safety.

### The Democrats try to deflect

In a reference to several press releases issued today from Oregon Democrats, Dwayne said: “I find it laughable that the Democrats are trying to mislead the public about a post on my campaign website. I am proud I called out my mayor for inappropriately celebrating sexuality at a city council meeting. And of course I stand against the sexualization and mutilation of children. I’m a parent. That’s what parents do. The Democrats are trying to deflect attention from their plans this session to raid taxpayers’ pocketbooks, promote fake fixes to real problems, and Portlandize the state’s rural communities with failed progressive policies.”

### Dwayne’s priorities

Dwayne’s legislative priorities for the 2024 short session include:

- Restoring public health and safety including ending Measure 110 and urban camping
- Encouraging economic growth, innovation, and entrepreneurship based on fiscal discipline and free from race and sex-based discrimination
- Protecting citizens from state overreach including providing education freedom to families and preserving parental rights

Dwayne will not let Democrats distract him from his focus on helping families. He has seen firsthand the damage caused by the Democrats’ destructive policies: last year in his hometown of 40,000 along the Interstate 5 corridor, there were five murders and 15 overdose deaths, up from 2 murders and just one overdose death in 2020.

“I came to Salem to help put a stop to Oregon’s bad state policy experiments,” said Dwayne. “It’s time to knock off the nonsense and get to work. See you on the House floor this Monday!”

###