

**From:** [Kevin Hoar](#)  
**To:** [Kron Michael C](#)  
**Cc:** [AM Gurney](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Public records reform  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 19, 2016 2:22:13 PM  
**Attachments:** [image002.jpg](#)  
[ORP Govt Transparency Tour Flier.pdf](#)  
[Govt Transparency ORP Resolution 2015-06-27.pdf](#)  
[ORP 2015 Platform as AMENDED 2015-10-24 Govt Trans.pdf](#)

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Dear Mr. Kron,

Anne Marie Gurney and our State Chairman Bill Currier have asked me, on behalf of the Oregon Republican Party Gov't Transparency and Accountability Committee (of which I am member), to get in touch with you to answer questions, to send you info about our Listening Tour this past fall, and to act as a formal contact person on behalf of the Oregon Republican Party. Attached are:

1. Oregon Republican Party State Central Committee Resolution on Gov't Transparency and Accountability establishing the entire effort (June 27, 2016)
2. Flyer listing our where and when the Listening Tour stops took place.
3. New Section added to the Oregon Republican Party platform that we added at our 2015 State Platform Convention on October 24<sup>th</sup>.
4. A link to the TV coverage that our Listening Tour stop in Bend received.  
<http://www.ktvz.com/news/gop-transparency-tour-in-bend/36002490>

In addition to these items, I plan to send you:

- Final Report from the ORP Transparency Listening Tour
- List of the State Legislators and Public Officials that took part in these tour stops.

...by tomorrow morning. I also plan to attend tomorrow's "AG Public Records Law Reform Task Force Subgroup" meeting which I understand will take place in HR 343 at the Oregon State Capitol, 900 Court St NE, Salem, OR. So I look forward to meeting you in person then.

If you would ever like to speak by phone as well, please let me know what dates and times work for you and I'm happy to schedule something. The best number to reach me is my Direct: (503) 974-4627 also listed below.



Oregon Republican Party

**Kevin Hoar**

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“There are two ways to conquer and enslave a nation. One is by the sword. The other is by debt.”  
John Adams 1826

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Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Kron Michael C <[michael.c.kron@doj.state.or.us](mailto:michael.c.kron@doj.state.or.us)>  
**Date:** December 29, 2015 at 6:26:26 PM PST  
**To:** "missurney@yahoo.com" <[missurney@yahoo.com](mailto:missurney@yahoo.com)>  
**Subject:** Public records reform

It was very nice to meet you the other day. If you would be willing to talk to me about the recent listening tour you spearheaded, I would certainly appreciate it. I completely understand if you are too busy, of course. Just let me know.

Thanks,

Michael

Michael Kron  
Oregon Department of Justice  
\*\*\*\*\*CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE\*\*\*\*\*

This e-mail may contain information that is privileged, confidential, or otherwise exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If you are not the addressee or it appears from the context or otherwise that you have received this e-mail in error, please advise me immediately by reply e-mail, keep the contents confidential, and immediately delete the message and any attachments from your system.

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# A Call for Transparency and Accountability

Oregonians are fed up with political scandals; we can do better.

## Put Control of Government Back in the Hands of the People

- WHEREAS, Political corruption in Oregon has permeated all levels of government, reaching the highest offices and largest projects; AND
- WHEREAS, Oregon's recent political scandals, from hundreds of millions of dollars wasted on failed programs to Gov. Kitzhaber's disgrace and resignation, are not representative of the honesty and integrity of most Oregonians; AND
- WHEREAS, This kind of waste, fraud, and abuse are a drain on our economy, a blight on our state's reputation, and threaten to lower the bar for government in our state, creating a race to the bottom among politicians and governing officials; AND
- WHEREAS, These scandals constitute a pattern of abuse that has led many voters to lose confidence in state government, where they seem to have little voice and no ability to exercise meaningful oversight; AND
- WHEREAS, This pattern of political scandals is a symptom of a lack of transparency in government, where citizens and the media have insufficient access to the information they must have to keep government accountable, AND
- WHEREAS, The Oregon Government Ethics Commission (a commission handpicked and funded by the governor) is an insufficient check on government corruption--it is the equivalent to hiring more foxes to guard the hen house-- to trust politicians and their appointees to ensure the ethics of other politicians and appointees; AND
- WHEREAS, Oregonians have limited access to public records, and the state has made it **cost prohibitive** to access the few remaining records that are not **exempt** from public records laws; AND
- WHEREAS, Oregonians, when requesting public records, are at the mercy of the agency in terms of response time and recourse if the agency does not release the information for reasons it deems fit (**citizens at mercy of agency process**); AND
- WHEREAS, A recent study by the *Center for Public Integrity* ranks Oregon with an "F" in the category of "Public Access to Information". Additionally, it ranks Oregon with a D

for executive accountability and legislative accountability, with a D+ in judicial accountability<sup>1</sup>; AND

WHEREAS, Advancing policies that limit government power and hold politicians accountable is only possible in a system of transparent, open and honest government; AND

WHEREAS, Oregon Republicans have been splintered by issues and need focus to succeed. Issues that are important to Oregon Republicans can all be served by better government accountability regarding transparency. In a recent poll 29% of respondents said the Republican Party is out of touch. 21% of poll respondents said the Republican Party is too weak<sup>2</sup>; AND

WHEREAS, Oregon Republicans believe that the people of this state do not yield their sovereignty to the agencies that serve them. The people, in delegating authority, do not give their public servants the right to decide what is good for the people to know and what is not good for them to know. The people insist on remaining informed so that they may maintain control over the instruments that they have created<sup>3</sup>; THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, The Republican State Central Committee expresses our unequivocal support to our state Legislative officials in working towards making our state government more transparent and accountable; AND

We ask our legislative leaders to prioritize transparency and accountability legislation; AND

We direct the State Committee Chairman to deliver copies of this resolution to the state Republican Senate Caucus, and the state Republican House Caucus, and to communicate our priorities to the media; AND

We resolve to partner with our Republican Legislators to be the leaders in bringing out much needed transparency reforms to Oregon. We want state legislators to prioritize transparency and accountability legislation that is inclusive of not only public records, but accountability, open government, ethics and reforms, and in turn, we are willing to help.

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<sup>1</sup> Center for Public Integrity Ranking of Oregon's Sunshine Laws, <http://www.stateintegrity.org/oregon>

<sup>2</sup> Poll conducted by DHM Research, and is available upon request.

<sup>3</sup> WA state Public Records Act preamble

# Oregon Republican Party 2015 Platform

as amended October 24th 2015

## Government Transparency, Accountability and Honesty

*Government must conduct all business in an honest, fully transparent, and accountable manner. The people of Oregon do not yield their sovereignty to the agencies that serve them and do not give their public servants the right to decide what is good for the people to know and what is not good for them to know. The people of Oregon and its elected representatives must be fully empowered to examine, investigate, and act to expose and end public corruption, collusion, secrecy, and abuse of the public trust.*

- 17.1 We support empowering our elected legislators and public officials to compel sworn testimony under penalty of perjury on the public record from all Oregon government agencies' personnel and leadership.
- 17.2 We believe that Oregon's elected legislators should be able to impeach and remove from office by supermajority Oregon's Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Bureau of Labor and Industry Commissioner, and any political appointees to state agencies requiring State Senate approval for malfeasance, corruption or violations of the public trust.
- 17.3 We believe that satisfying public records requests is a core function of state government and must be executed within a short time frame, at minimal cost, for any and all purposes except for limited exemptions in cases that may endanger public safety. Compliance performance must be measured and reported publicly using modern customer service tools and techniques. Failure to comply must be court enforceable and be subject to potential criminal or civil liability.
- 17.4 We support requiring that statewide and local taxing entities regularly compile and publicly post in detail their current debt, assets and future obligations on their official websites.
- 17.5 Government must provide whistleblowers a fair and impartial court-supervised process that guarantees protection from employment retaliation and civil and criminal liability, except in cases of gross abuse.
- 17.6 Government accountability must not be limited to self-investigation and audit, but instead be regular, independent, non-partisan, free of collusion or cronyism and publicly available for scrutiny, input and potential action.
- 17.7 We support strengthening legislative and public oversight of administrative rules and the rulemaking process to ensure they conform to the legislative intent and the Oregon Constitution, including regular review and sun-setting.
- 17.8 We support ending the abuse of the Emergency Clause in bills passed by a simple majority vote of the State Legislature for the purpose of thwarting the people's right to ballot referral, rushing implementation and curtailing public scrutiny for legislation that does not represent an actual emergency.
- 17.9 We believe that all proposed legislative bills be prefaced by a "Because" clause that states what problem the bill is meant to solve or address.



## **Clackamas County**

September 2nd | 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Rivershore Bar & Grille | 1900 Clackamette Dr, Oregon City OR

## **Coos Bay - North Bend**

September 22nd | 7:00 - 8:30 PM

North Bend Library | 1800 Sherman Ave, North Bend, OR

## **Medford**

September 23rd | 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Medford Library | 205 S. Central Ave, Medford, OR

## **Keizer - Salem**

September 29th | 7:00 - 8:30 PM

City Hall Community Center | 930 Chemawa Rd, Keizer, OR

## **Baker City**

October 6th | 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Best Western Sunridge Inn | 1 Sunridge Ln, Baker City, OR

## **Pendleton**

October 7th | 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Pendleton Convention Center | 1601 Westgate, Pendleton, OR

## **Eugene**

October 13th | 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Springfield Utility Board | 225 A Street, Eugene OR

## **Bend**

October 22nd | 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Riverhouse | 3075 US-97, Bend OR

## **Washington County**

October 27th | 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Peppermill Restaurant | 17455 SW Farmington Road, Aloha, OR