

**Media Release:**

**Oregon Republican  
Convention Endorses  
Resolutions Supporting  
Public Safety Officers and  
Calling for Restrictions on  
Governor's Emergency  
Powers**

**Monday, June 22, 2020 - The Oregon Republican  
Party Delegate Selection Convention, which met on**

**June 20, 2020, adopted a motion by Kevin Mannix to endorse two Resolutions.**

**The first Resolution calls upon the Oregon Legislature to itself pass a joint resolution during the Special Session, which convenes on June 24, thanking law enforcement officers for their dedicated work. The Resolution reads as follows:**

**“Oregon thanks our law enforcement officers for their dedicated work, often at risk of personal injury or death, to protect and serve Oregonians. We recognize that the overwhelming majority of law enforcement officers follow the law. For those few law enforcement officers who may engage in unlawful conduct, we call for swift, sure, and fair accountability.”**

**The second Resolution calls upon the Oregon Legislature to pass legislation which restricts the**

**Oregon Governor's emergency powers. In particular, the resolution calls for a 30-day time limit on emergency powers. This anticipates that the Oregon Legislature will return in Special Session every 30 days to review any emergency action and to determine whether it should be continued.**

**Another significant element of the Resolution calls for the law to be changed so that the current Class C Criminal Misdemeanor penalty for violating directives or orders of the Governor as to emergencies be changed to a civil penalty, with a fine of no more than \$500 for each violation.**

**The Resolution calls for the Governor's emergency powers to be restricted so that the Governor may only provide guidance, without enforcement power, to religious organizations. This means that the Governor may suggest how safe health practices may be followed but may not in any other fashion restrict**

**persons from engaging in religious gatherings or worship.**

**Other provisions of the Resolution call for legislation to prevent the Governor from expanding the authority of government agencies during an emergency.**

**At its conclusion, the Resolution states:**

**“In summary, we call upon the Legislature to act as the elected representatives of the people, who are empowered to legislate on behalf of the people, and to restrict the Governor from taking on super-legislative powers.”**

**Kevin Mannix, President of Common Sense for Oregon, is also a Republican Precinct Committee Person. He presented these Resolutions to Bill Currier, Chairman of the Oregon Republican Party, and asked that the Resolutions be endorsed during**

**the Republican State Convention, as this would be the one statewide forum for political leaders to make a case to the Oregon Legislature for action during the upcoming Special Session.**

**“Somebody has to stand up and argue for what is right,” said Mannix. “I encourage my colleagues who are involved in the Democratic Party of Oregon to take a similar stance to protect Oregonians from the wide ranging exercise of emergency powers by the Governor, acting as a super legislature,” Mannix added.**

## **Resolution of the Marion County Republican Party**

The Marion County Republican Party calls upon the Oregon Legislature to pass legislation, during the Special Session which convenes on June 24, 2020, to establish the following:

1. End all of the Governor's emergency powers 30 days after any declaration of emergency, and prohibit extension or reestablishment of such emergency powers unless authorized by a majority vote of the House of Representatives and a majority vote of the Senate. Any such extension or reestablishment of emergency powers shall be limited to 30 days. In essence, the Governor may not exercise emergency powers longer than 30 days unless specifically authorized to do so by the Legislature.
2. Allow the Governor to provide guidance to religious organizations as to safe health practices during an epidemic, but prohibit the Governor from using emergency powers to subject religious organizations to orders, directives, or penalties for engaging in religious gatherings or worship.
3. Change the current Class C Misdemeanor penalty for violating directives or orders of the Governor, and state agencies, as to an emergency declared by a governor, so that the only penalty will be a civil penalty, with a fine of no more than \$500 for each violation.
4. Prohibit the Governor, during an emergency declared by the Governor, from cancelling or overriding the due process procedures of the Oregon Administrative Procedures Act.
5. Prohibit the Governor from closing any school, college, or university, unless such closure is authorized by the local school board or by a majority vote of the House and Senate.
6. Prohibit the Governor from creating new regulatory powers, or expanding existing regulatory powers, during a state of emergency. This includes prohibiting the Governor from unilaterally expanding the jurisdiction or authority of regulatory agencies.

In summary, we call upon the Legislature to act as the elected representatives of the people, who are empowered to legislate on behalf of the people, and to restrict the Governor from taking on super-legislative powers.

Adopted by the Marion County Republican Central Committee on June 18, 2020.

Endorsed by the ORP Delegate Selection Convention on June 20, 2020.

## **Resolution of the Marion County Republican Party**

The Marion County Republican Party calls upon the Oregon Legislature to pass a Joint Resolution during the Special Session which convenes on June 24, 2020, as follows:

Oregon thanks our law enforcement officers for their dedicated work, often at risk of personal injury or death, to protect and serve Oregonians. We recognize that the overwhelming majority of law enforcement officers follow the law. For those few law enforcement officers who may engage in unlawful conduct, we call for swift, sure, and fair accountability.

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