



➤ PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE



Have you met Oregon Representative Rick Lewis? As Co-Chair of the CSG West Public Safety Committee, he will work with Nevada Assembly Speaker Jason Frierson to facilitate member dialogue and collaborative solutions to issues faced throughout the region. We look forward to supporting the committee's efforts in the coming years.

WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE EMERGING PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES IN THE WEST?

Over the course of the next 2-3 years, I believe police reform and transparency will be the issue receiving the most attention. States will be under significant pressure to pass laws addressing reforms. The challenge will be to strike a balance that ensures public safety while also preserving the ability of police perform their duties and meet community expectations. To achieve this, it will be important to engage and listen to all perspectives to prevent unintended consequences and ensure that reform efforts ultimately result in better policing and improve public safety. In addition to reform efforts, I believe that issues related to bail reform, incarceration, continued efforts in justice reinvestment, and dealing with mental health systems reform will likely be raised. I hope that we work on these things with an eye toward respecting the rights and concerns of victims, while continuing to ensure offender accountability.

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE PEOPLE TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR DISTRICT?

I represent a district that borders the capitol city of Salem on the west and the Portland metro area to the north. Although the district is in close proximity to large population centers, it is very much an agricultural district known for growing grass seed, Christmas trees, and a wide variety of food crops such as hazelnuts, blueberries, strawberries, and food staples such as broccoli, green beans, and squash- to name a few. There are approximately 64,000 residents in the district I serve and within the state legislature, it is known as the Christmas Tree District.



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WHAT IS ONE THING THAT MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU, BUT WOULD FIND INTERESTING?

A 40-year veteran of law enforcement, I spent a part of 2005 on a leave of absence as Chief of Police to visit Iraq where I provided training and supervision for the training of the Iraqi Police leadership for the U.S. Department of Justice.