



# Senator Ted Ferrioli

Senate Republican Leader

<http://www.leg.state.or.us/senaterepublicans>

# Capitol Update

April 30, 2007

Oregon Senate  
Republicans Capitol  
Update

**In this Issue:**  
Chalkboard Project  
Turkey Bill

*The Chalkboard Project spent the last two years conducting more than 100,000 conversations with Moms, Dads, children and Taxpayers across the state about what education in Oregon should look like. Chalkboard Project produced ready-made concepts for legislative adoption. Despite broad support from Oregonians of all perspectives, the Chalkboard proposals have languished in committee. This legislative session is more than half over and the most obvious, common sense reforms appear dead. The Oregonian had this to say over the weekend...*

## School Reform Goes by Wayside

Julia Silverman, Associated Press

The nonprofit [Chalkboard Foundation](#) swept into the Capitol building this year on a cloud of hopeful expectations, buoyed by several years of research on education, extensive public polling on the present and future of Oregon's schools and scads of good publicity.

But the group, which is underwritten by some of [Oregon's largest foundations](#), has run smack up against the state's powerful education establishment over the past few months, echoing a relationship that's been at-arms-length since Chalkboard's inception in 2003.

"They are setting themselves up as people coming in to whip those schools into shape," said Tricia Smith, a lobbyist for the Oregon School Employees Association, which represents about 20,000 secretaries, custodians, bus drivers and classroom assistants. "They think they don't need to learn how things work in schools; their methodology is better."

The back-and-forth has derailed some of Chalkboard's key legislative proposals that revolve around tracking how schools money is spent, and tweaking those expenditures. That's partly why the group has launched a new radio advertising campaign that features the voice of everyday Oregonians, urging "accountability" and "efficiency" in school funding. [Continue reading...](#)



[Forward to a Friend!](#)

## Democrats Lock Up Behind Golden Gobbler

Senate Democrats voted unanimously Thursday to create the crime of “restrictive confinement of a pig.” Oddly enough, at Wednesday night’s “Golden Gobbler Awards,” [Senate Bill 694](#) received honorable mention for the 2007 Turkey Bill, which is awarded to the most outlandish and ridiculous bills of the session.

“Where is the vision of hope and opportunity for our state? Oregonians are looking for more from Salem than just another piece of pork,” said [Senator Ted Ferrioli](#). “The day we start regulating how a farmer can best go about his business should be the day pigs fly.”

Senate Bill 694 says that a pig must be able to “turn around freely” and “lie down with legs extended.” Violation of this statute carries a steep penalty of one year’s imprisonment and a \$6,250 fine. All this for a practice not used in Oregon.

“Since when is Salem the expert on best farm practices?” said [Senator Doug Whitsett](#), a veterinarian. “This is another example of over-regulation and unnecessary lawmaking. We should be doing the people’s business, which is Oregon classrooms, public safety, and healthy kids.”