

Representative Earl Blumenauer (D-OR)



Washington, DC Office:

1111 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: (202) 225-4811
www.blumenauer.house.gov

Elected in 1996 to replace Ron Wyden after his election to the U.S. Senate, Earl Blumenauer represents Oregon's third congressional district, which includes most of Portland and Multnomah County east of the Willamette River. Blumenauer is a lifelong resident of Portland and graduated from Lewis and Clark College and its Northwestern Law School. Blumenauer spent over 20 years as a public official representing the city in varying capacities, including County Commissioner, City Councilor and State Representative before being elected to the U.S. House in 1996.

Blumenauer currently serves on the Budget Committee and Ways and Means Committee, where he also serves on the subcommittees on Health and Trade. Blumenauer's policy priorities include health care reform, honest trade, financing critical infrastructure, building livable communities, and ensuring economic security for working families.

Blumenauer has a distinctive agenda – he formed a Bicycle Caucus that boasts over 100 members and has advocated for an interstate highway system for bicycle paths. As Chair of the Livable Communities Task Force, Blumenauer has introduced legislation to help communities improve active forms of transportation such as walking and biking. He has also advocated for less dependence on driving as a means to improve public health. In addition, Blumenauer is a member of the House Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition (SEEC). Founded in 2009, the goal of SEEC is to create focused and effective advocacy for policies that involve clean energy innovation, environmental protection and job creation.

Blumenauer champions many of the policies that make Portland unique, including regional light rail transit, curbside recycling, and land use planning. Trade is another key policy issue for Blumenauer because it is a significant element of Portland's economy. Blumenauer has advocated for creating a new model for trade agreements that encompass fully enforceable labor and environmental standards.

Blumenauer is also a vocal opponent of wasteful government spending, aligning him with unlikely associates such as Rep. Jeff Flake (R-Arizona), a leading opponent of congressional earmarks. In 2008, Blumenauer was one of only 14 House Democrats who voted to sustain Pres. Bush's veto of the Farm Bill, legislation that addresses U.S. agricultural and food policy, because it was too bloated.

One of Blumenauer's top priorities is reforming the Farm Bill to protect and benefit Oregon farmers and ranchers as well as community and environmental health. Blumenauer is a vocal proponent of organics, small farms and ranches, conservation, specialty crops, farmers markets and agricultural research.

Blumenauer voted against the recent Farm Bill, claiming that it fell short of necessary reforms. Blumenauer is a vocal proponent of organics, small farms and ranches, conservation, specialty crops, farmers markets and agricultural research. He successfully worked on an amendment to the Bill that will now allow for cultivation of industrial hemp. Some of Blumenauer's proposed reforms to national agricultural policy include reforming farm subsidies, protecting farmland and the environment through sustainable agriculture and local and regional partnerships, and encouraging local and private investments to provide accessible, consistent local markets for farmers.

Recent visits to OSU

Rep. Blumenauer visited OSU in May 2013 to tour the O.H. Hinsdale Wave Research Laboratory, discuss the Farm Bill reauthorization and its implications on Oregon agriculture and OSU agricultural research with OSU students and faculty, and learn about OSU's viticulture, enology and dairy processing programs.