

Representative Greg Walden (R-OR)



Washington, DC Office:

2182 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: (202) 225-6730
www.walden.house.gov

Greg Walden has represented Oregon's second congressional district since 1999, which includes twenty counties in central, southern, and eastern Oregon, including Deschutes County, the home of OSU-Cascades. Walden grew up on a cherry orchard near The Dalles and began his public service career in the Oregon Legislature, serving in both the House and Senate and earning leadership posts in both.

Walden serves on the Energy and Commerce Committee and is Chairman of the Communications and Technology Subcommittee, which oversees telecommunications policy spanning the Internet, broadcast, radio, wire, and satellite. In November 2012, Walden was unanimously elected by his House Republican colleagues to serve as chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee (NRCC), which works with top officials like the Speaker and Majority Leader to set the House agenda. Prior to this, Walden served for nearly four years as Deputy Chairman of the NRCC.

Walden's congressional priorities include supporting timber-dependent counties, promoting forest health, increasing rural health care access, improving transparency in both Congress and government organizations, and fighting to end the production, trafficking and abuse of methamphetamines.

Walden's policy agenda has actively focused on rural issues and forest management – both national issues with significant local implications. In 2003, Walden helped assemble bi-partisan support for the Healthy Forests Restoration Act, a legislative response to wildfires exacerbated by unlogged dry timber. He has reached across the aisle to collaborate with other members of Oregon's congressional delegation to extend direct federal timber payments to rural Oregon counties, and in February 2012 partnered with Oregon Reps. Peter DeFazio (D) and Kurt Schrader (D) to introduce legislation that would provide long-

term funding for rural Oregon counties, many of which will face insolvency with the anticipated loss of federal timber payments. That plan, known as the "O&C Trust, Conservation, and Jobs Act", is designed to ensure stable, long-term funding for rural Oregon counties while simultaneously protecting old growth and other important locations. The bill passed the House in September 2013.

Before his election to Congress, Walden owned and ran a group of Oregon radio stations. In concert with his role as Chairman on the House Subcommittee on Communications, Technology and the Internet, many of Walden's legislative priorities relate to these issue areas. In 2011, Walden introduced the "Jumpstarting Opportunity with Broadband Spectrum (JOBS) Act", legislation seeking the advancement of wireless broadband service, bringing interoperable broadband communications to public safety officials, and reducing the deficit by approximately \$15 billion. The bill was included with the "Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012" (H.R. 3630), and after extensive bipartisan negotiations, was signed into law in February 2012. In May 2013, the House of Representative unanimously passed another Walden bill (H.R. 1580) that "affirms it is the policy of the United States to promote a global internet free from government control." Most recently, the House unanimously approved a bill in 2014 authored by Walden that reforms the FCC to increase transparency, predictability and accountability at the commission.

Recent visits to OSU

In January 2013, Rep. Walden visited OSU-Cascades to discuss expansion to a four-year campus and campus-community partnerships.