

Monique DeSpain Research Memo

Significant Findings

DeSpain Said She Agreed With The Decision To Overturn Roe V. Wade And Would Not Support Efforts To Codify Roe V. Wade In Congress, Allowing States To Ban Abortion Without Exceptions For Rape Or Incest.

- ✓ DeSpain said she “believe[d] and concur[red] with the Supreme Court” on Dobbs, saying “I fully support the Court’s decision.”
- ✓ DeSpain: “I will not support the return of the abortion issue to the federal government.”
- ✓ DeSpain said she agreed with the decision to overturn Roe v. Wade and would not support efforts to codify Roe v. Wade in Congress.
- ✓ HEADLINE: “A Year After Fall Of Roe, 25 Million Women Live In States With Abortion Bans Or Tighter Restrictions.”
- ✓ August 2022: 72% of Oregonians said abortion should be legal in all or most cases.
- ✓ 2018: Oregon voters “soundly defeated” a ballot measure that would stop state funding for abortion and prevent public employees from receiving abortion coverage in their health insurance.

Monique DeSpain Defended MAGA Mike Johnson And Donald Trump.

- ✓ DeSpain defended MAGA Mike Johnson, saying he was “in a very difficult situation” as House Speaker.
- ✓ DeSpain said she was “quite pleased” with Mike Johnson and the fact that he was “not shy about his own personal values.”
 - Johnson wanted to “get the number of abortions to ZERO!!”
 - Johnson advocated for “hard labor for 1-10” years for doctors who perform abortions.
 - Johnson called homosexuality “inherently unnatural” and feared it would lead to legalized pedophilia and destroy “the entire democratic system.”
- ✓ DeSpain spoke against removing Trump from primary ballots, but declined to comment on his guilty verdict or answer directly whether she planned to vote for him.
 - DeSpain called the Colorado Supreme Court decision to remove Trump from the Republican primary ballot “a very dangerous ruling” and said it “definitely undermine[d] democracy.”

Monique DeSpain Would Be A Rubber Stamp For The Extreme Republican Agenda.

- ✓ DeSpain would be a rubber stamp for the extreme Republican agenda, saying the only way she differed from the Republican Party line was disagreeing with Republicans who did not think border security was an issue.

- ✓ DeSpain said she would not support efforts to codify Roe v. Wade in Congress.
- ✓ DeSpain would not advocate for the best interest of labor groups, saying she was not pro-union.
- ✓ DeSpain said “it certainly looks like” there was enough evidence to argue to impeach Biden.
- ✓ DeSpain opposed “any gun restrictions.”
- ✓ DeSpain faulted Congressional Democrats for not taking action on the border, after Congressional Republicans halted a commonsense and bipartisan border deal at Trump’s request.
- ✓ DeSpain would not commit to bringing federal money back to Oregon and advocated for government agency cuts.
 - Oregon received \$4.5 billion in federal funding for infrastructure from the bipartisan infrastructure deal.
- ✓ DeSpain said she did “not believe that humans are causing climate change.”

DeSpain Said She Was Against Unions And Lobbied For An Organization That Was In A Coalition With A Group That Sought To Undermine Unions, Including In Oregon.

- ✓ DeSpain contrasted herself with a local elected, saying “he’s a union guy, and I’m not.”
- ✓ 2023: DeSpain was general counsel and a lobbyist for Common Sense for Oregon.
 - DeSpain promoted her work for Common Sense for Oregon in her campaign biography.
- ✓ Common Sense for Oregon was in a coalition with an organization that sought to undermine unions, including in Oregon.
- ✓ Freedom Foundation was in Oregon Liberty Alliance with Common Sense for Oregon.
- ✓ Freedom Foundation’s mission was to undermine public-sector unions.
- ✓ The Guardian called Freedom Foundation “door-to-door union killers” after they canvassed thousands of childcare and home-care workers in Oregon and Washington trying to get them to opt out of paying their union dues.
- ✓ Freedom Foundation’s chief executive said, “government unions are a root cause of every growing national dysfunction in America.”
- ✓ Freedom Foundation argued against allowing legislative assistants in the Oregon Legislature to unionize, saying it would violate separation of powers provisions of the state constitution.
- ✓ Oregon Public Broadcasting: Freedom Foundation was founded “to urge people to opt out of public sector unions” and leveraged the pandemic to try to get teachers and firefighters to try to opt out of their unions.

- ✓ Freedom Foundation is part of the State Policy Network, which unions said “aggressively tries to destroy unions and weaken the working class’s collective bargaining power.”
- ✓ 2023: Oregon had 255,000 union members.

DeSpain Was Washington, D.C. Extremists’ Pick For Congress, Which She Admitted By Saying She Was “Picked” By D.C. Entities And “I Don’t Think I Could Get Elected In Local Office.”

- ✓ DeSpain on why she chose to run for Congress instead of a local position: “I’m just going to be perfectly honest, I was picked. [...] The NRCC and organizations in D.C. [...] need reinforcements, and I couldn’t say no.”
- ✓ DeSpain: “I don’t think I could get elected in local office.”
- ✓ National Journal: DeSpain was the “beltway choice” for OR-04.
- ✓ Roll Call: “Republicans in Washington” supported DeSpain, saying she “could run a strong campaign against [Hoyle].”
- ✓ DeSpain was “honored” to be endorsed by extreme republicans Mike Johnson, Elise Stefanik, and Steve Scalise.

DeSpain Faulted Congressional Democrats For Not Taking Action On The Border, After Congressional Republicans Halted A Bipartisan Border Deal At Trump’s Request.

- ✓ March 2024: When asked what Congress should do to secure the border, DeSpain provided no solution but said “there are some proposals on the table, and you’ll see that it’s all the Democrats that are resisting closing the border.”
- ✓ Democrats had a comprehensive and bipartisan border package that included hiring more border patrol officers, increasing detention capacity, and improving technology to detect fentanyl at the Southern border.
- ✓ February 2024: Republicans backed out of the bipartisan border security bill at Trump’s request.
- ✓ The border patrol agents’ labor union endorsed the bipartisan border agreement.

DeSpain Allied Herself With Anti-Gay And Anti-Abortion Organizations And Individuals.

- ✓ 2023: DeSpain was general counsel and a lobbyist for Common Sense for Oregon.
 - DeSpain promoted her work for Common Sense for Oregon in her campaign biography.
- ✓ Common Sense for Oregon was in a coalition with groups that opposed abortion and same-sex marriage, even in 2023.
 - Oregon Family Council, an organization who advocated for marriage only defined as “a man and a woman” and who was pro-life, was part of the Oregon Liberty Alliance with Common Sense for Oregon.

- 2023: Oregon Family Council’s website said marriage “must not be redefined to include anyone but a man and a woman.”
 - An Oregon Family Council spokesperson compared gay couples to neo-Nazis when discussing why the group proposed a ballot measure that would allow businesses to refuse to provide services to same-sex couples.
 - Oregon Family Council spokesperson discussing allowing businesses to refuse to provide services to same-sex couples: “Would you expect a Jewish bakery to serve a neo-Nazi who wanted a cake with a swastika on it?”
 - Regarding abortion, Oregon Family Council was “committed to encouraging a culture of life.”
 - Oregon Right to Life, a group that “oppose[d] abortion at any point of gestation,” was part of the Oregon Liberty Alliance with Common Sense for Oregon.
 - Oregon Right to Life’s mission was to protect “all innocent human life from conception to natural death.”
- ✓ Common Sense for Oregon historically stood against abortion and same-sex marriage.
- 2014: Common Sense for Oregon skipped a Republican conference—the Dorchester conference—after organizers tried to move Republicans to the left on same-sex marriage and abortion.
 - Common Sense for Oregon said they no longer felt welcome at the conference and were “blindsided” by decisions to vote on same-sex marriage and to promote a video discussing opposing an abortion ban.
 - 2014: Common Sense for Oregon hosted a separate event from the Dorchester conference, which was designed for attendees “to listen to a range of speakers who oppose same-sex marriage and abortion.”
- ✓ DeSpain praised and was supported by Kevin Mannix, who pushed anti-gay legislation and was opposed to abortion.

2023-2024: DeSpain Donated To State Senator Tim Knopp And Welcomed Him At Her Primary Election Night Event After He Led A Walkout That Watered Down Language For Abortion Protection, LGBTQ Protection, And Gun Violence Prevention.

- ✓ June 2023: State Senator Tim Knopp led a walkout to block a vote on expanded protections for abortion access and gender affirming care in Oregon.
- As a result of Knopp’s walkout, Democrats watered down an abortion protection bill, weakening language concerning parental notifications for abortion.
 - As a result of Knopp’s walkout, Democrats shelved a constitutional amendment to protect LGBTQ people from discrimination.

- As a result of Knopp’s walkout, Democrats removed language increasing limits on concealed carry, raising the semiautomatic rifle purchasing age from 18 to 21, and punishing manufacturing or transferring undetectable firearms.
- ✓ September 2023: Shortly after the walkout, DeSpain donated \$250 to Tim Knopp for State Senate, the only state-level Oregon candidate DeSpain had ever donated to.
- ✓ May 2024: DeSpain welcomed and thanked Tim Knopp at her primary election night event.

DeSpain Opposed “Any Gun Restrictions”—Even Widely Supported Measures Like Background Checks, Permits To Purchase A Gun, And Raising The Legal Age To Purchase A Gun To 21—Then Moderated Her Position On The Campaign Trail.

- ✓ DeSpain opposed “any gun restrictions.”
- ✓ DeSpain opposed S.B. 348, saying it was unconstitutional and infringed on Second Amendment rights.
- ✓ S.B. 348 was a gun safety bill requiring background checks, permits to purchase a gun, raising the legal age to purchase a gun to 21, and more commonsense gun safety provisions.
 - Oregon S.B. 348 required a background check before someone purchased or transferred a firearm, which 86% of American adults supported.
 - S.B. 348 would raise the firearm purchase age in Oregon to 21 with the exception of hunting rifles and shotguns, which 69% of Republicans and 90% of Democrats supported.
 - S.B. 348 would require a permit to purchase a gun, which 72% of Americans supported.
- ✓ 2024: On the campaign trail, DeSpain amended her position, saying she would support “reasonable measures to separate the mentally ill from weapons.”

DeSpain Was A Lobbyist For An Organization That Advocated For Policies That Disproportionately Benefitted The Wealthy.

- ✓ 2023: DeSpain was general counsel and a lobbyist for Common Sense for Oregon.
 - DeSpain promoted her work for Common Sense for Oregon in her campaign biography.
- ✓ Common Sense for Oregon advocated for eliminating the estate tax, a policy that benefitted the wealthy.
 - Common Sense for Oregon raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to get Measure 84, an initiative to repeal Oregon’s estate tax, on the ballot.
 - Measure 84 could enable landowners to avoid paying taxes on capital gains from stocks and other property.
 - Eliminating the estate tax in Oregon would “worsen the racial wealth divide and undermine [the] abilities to invest in services that benefit all Oregonians.”

- ✓ Common Sense for Oregon organized against Republicans who voted for tax increases for corporations and the wealthy.
 - Common Sense for Oregon organized against Republicans who voted for income tax increases in Measures 66 and 67.
 - Measure 66 increased taxes on individuals who made more than \$125,000 and households that made more than \$250,000 and eliminated a federal income tax deduction.
 - Measure 67 increased income taxes for corporations with profits over \$10 million and raised the minimum corporate income tax from \$10 to 0.1% of Oregon sales.
- ✓ Common Sense for Oregon sought caps on business and individual income taxes.

DeSpain Worked For An Organization That Hosted Spokespersons From A Pro-Trump Super PAC And Turning Point USA At Their Rallies.

- ✓ 2023: DeSpain was general counsel and a lobbyist for Common Sense for Oregon.
 - DeSpain promoted her work for Common Sense for Oregon in her campaign biography.
- ✓ 2018: David Clarke, Jr. headlined the Freedom Rally that Common Sense for Oregon sponsored after calling for violence against the press.
 - Clarke was a Pro-Trump Super PAC spokesperson and senior adviser.
 - 2020: Clarke invited the Proud Boys to Wisconsin, backed Trump's election fraud claims, and urged insurrectionists not to cooperate with law enforcement.
 - 2018: Clarke told his followers to "punch [the media] in the nose & MAKE THEM TASTE THEIR OWN BLOOD."
 - 2016: Clarke called on Trump supporters to take up "pitchforks and torches" against Democrats and the media.
- ✓ 2022: A Turning Point USA spokesperson headlined the Oregon Freedom Rally that Common Sense for Oregon sponsored.

DeSpain Implied That South Eugene Was Not A Representation Of America.

- ✓ DeSpain implied that South Eugene was not a representation of America, saying "I think that CD4 is a broader representation of America, of Oregon. I live in South Eugene, and the state rep position, I think that's Paul Holvey, he's a union guy, and I'm not. I'm for the people of the United States and Oregon."

DeSpain Was A Registered Oregon Lobbyist As Recently As September 2023.

Despite Running On An Anti-Government Corruption Platform, DeSpain Praised And Accepted Support From A Career Politician With A Long History Of Ethics Complaints.

- ✓ DeSpain campaigned on fighting to eliminate government corruption and bringing “an end to the careers of pay-to-play career politicians.”
- ✓ DeSpain called Kevin Mannix “just delightful” and said he was a main reason she decided to run for office.
- ✓ Kevin Mannix endorsed DeSpain.
- ✓ Kevin Mannix was a career politician who ran for election 14 times and served in Oregon politics off and on for 35 years.
- ✓ Mannix had “a reputation for questionable campaign-finance reporting and fundraising” and was “the subject of multiple elections complaints and media investigations.”
- ✓ 1996-2008: Mannix drew scrutiny for over \$1 million in questionable transfers between himself, his campaign, his political action committees, and his law firm.
 - 1996-2006: Political committees and foundations controlled by Mannix paid \$838,000 to his law firms, often times with the money moving several times in one day.
 - 1998-2002: Mannix funneled over \$80,000 from his campaign and political action committees to his law firm.
 - 2001-2002: Mannix personally collected \$24,200 from his campaign for rent.
 - 2002: Mannix’s law firm loaned \$183,300 to his campaign to purchase ads. 2002: Mannix used at least \$327,000 from foundations funded by a campaign donor to fund his law firm.
 - 2002-2003: Even when Mannix’s campaign was nearly \$700,000 in debt, he used the campaign to pay his law firm and himself personally.
 - 2008: Mannix “abruptly” paid off hundreds of thousands of dollars in campaign debt with loans from his law firm without disclosing where the money came from.
 - Mannix told one of his campaign staffers “not to worry” when Mannix’s campaign paid a firm Mannix owned nearly \$84,000.
- ✓ 1996: Mannix faced an ethics complaint for pushing a bill that weakened workers’ compensation coverage while he had five pending cases as an employer-side workers’ compensation lawyer.
- ✓ 2000: Mannix paid \$35,000 to settle a wrongful termination lawsuit after he fired an employee who accused him of illegally diverting law firm money to his Attorney General campaign.
- ✓ 2002: Mannix appeared to accept \$175,000 in campaign contributions under false names, leading to an election law complaint that exposed loopholes in Oregon campaign finance law. The complaint was dismissed, but the Secretary of State vowed to close the transparency “loopholes” that Mannix exploited.
- ✓ 2005: Mannix faced an Oregon elections inquiry for sixteen deficiencies in his campaign finance report, including seemingly misreporting a \$45,000 loan from himself to his campaign.

- ✓ 2015: Mannix was at the center of an Oregon Department of Justice ethics investigation after he allegedly routed donations to his campaign and organizations through a nonprofit where he provided legal services.
 - The Oregon Department of Justice filed a State Bar complaint against Mannix, charging that he violated ethics rules by representing a charity that gave his campaign and businesses \$1.1 million.
 - Some funds were paid to Mannix’s campaign and used to pay off campaign debt owed to Mannix’s law firm.
 - The State Professional Responsibility Board dismissed the Department of Justice complaint.

DeSpain Mentor Kevin Mannix’s Ally And Largest Campaign Donor Attracted Negative Press For Improper Spending, Sexual Misconduct, And Inappropriate Comments About Women And Sex.

- ✓ DeSpain worked with Kevin Mannix and called him “just delightful.”
- ✓ Loren Parks was Mannix’s “ally” and largest campaign donor.
 - As of 2010, Parks donated more than \$4 million to Mannix-related campaigns.
- ✓ Parks was sued for improper spending after his foundation funded \$200,000 in ads supporting a bill that Mannix cosponsored and paying an additional \$22,500 directly to Mannix.
- ✓ Parks attracted negative press for sexual misconduct and inappropriate statements about women and sex.
 - Parks was accused of sexual misconduct twice, by a former employee and someone who was “mentally impaired.”
 - Parks was a sex hypnotist who made comments saying women grow fat so they are not tempted to cheat on their husbands and rape and incest victims can only heal if they don’t get “mileage” out of their stories.
 - Parks claimed to heal a woman with multiple sclerosis with his sex therapies, bragged about hypnotizing women into becoming “sex machines.”

DeSpain Said She Agreed With The Decision To Overturn Roe V. Wade And Would Not Support Efforts To Codify Roe V. Wade In Congress, Allowing States To Ban Abortion Without Exceptions For Rape Or Incest

DeSpain Said She “Believe[d] And Concur[red] With The Supreme Court” On The Dobbs Decision

DeSpain Said She “Believe[d] And Concur[red] With The Supreme Court” On Dobbs, Saying “I Fully Support The Court’s Decision.” HOST: “Let’s talk a little bit about abortion because on the national scale, it’s obviously been an issue that’s influenced elections. For Oregonians, they consistently say it’s--since Roe v. Wade was overturned-- one of the most important issues for them. They’ve repeatedly come out in support of legalizing abortion within the state of Oregon. But if a federal ban were to come before you as a Congresswoman, a federal

Congresswoman, how would you vote on that?” DESPAIN: “I believe that the regulation of abortion is best left to the states. I believe and concur with the Supreme Court that that should be left to the state. I believe in life and I believe in the U.S. Constitution, and there’s nothing in the Constitution that supports the federal government should get involved in this topic. And so I fully support the Court’s decision that it is left to the people who can elect their state representatives and express themselves that way as they have in Oregon it’s very clear. And I will do nothing to return the regulation of abortion to the federal government, including the funding of abortion by the government.” [KMTR, 10:58, [4/18/24](#)] (VIDEO)

DeSpain: “I Was Very Pleased With The U.S. Supreme Court Dobbs Decision To Return The Regulation Of Reproductive Health Care To The State.” HOST: “What are your thoughts on reproductive health care in our country?” DESPAIN: “Well, health care is essential for everyone. It’s a very sensitive issue for all people and it’s not to be taken lightly at all. And I was very pleased with the U.S. Supreme Court Dobbs decision to return the regulation of reproductive health care to the state. Oregon’s made it very clear it’s a pro-choice state, and as Oregon’s Congresswoman, I have no intention to take any action to return the regulation of reproductive health care to the federal government.” [KVAL News, YouTube, 17:16, [11/16/23](#)] (VIDEO)

DeSpain Agreed With The Supreme Court Ruling On Dobbs And Said She Would Not Support A Nationwide Abortion Ban Or Efforts To Codify Roe Federally. “She said she agreed with the Supreme Court’s ruling in Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization that abortion should be regulated by states, saying she wouldn’t support a nationwide abortion ban or efforts to codify Roe v. Wade federally. ‘Oregonians have made perfectly clear that they’re pro choice, and the law is fixed on that,’ DeSpain said. ‘It can be modified through the state legislature, which is the proper place for that, and as a congresswoman for Oregon, I will not support the return of the abortion issue to the federal government.’” [Oregon Capital Chronicle, [11/17/23](#)]

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DeSpain: “I Have No Intention To Take Any Action To Return The Regulation Of Reproductive Health Care To The Federal Government.” HOST: “What are your thoughts on reproductive health care in our country?” DESPAIN: “Well, health care is essential for everyone. It’s a very sensitive issue for all people and it’s not to be taken lightly at all. And I was very pleased with the U.S. Supreme Court Dobbs decision to return the regulation of reproductive health care to the state. Oregon’s made it very clear it’s a pro-choice state, and as Oregon’s Congresswoman, I have no intention to take any action to return the regulation of reproductive health care to the federal government.” [KVAL News, YouTube, 17:16, [11/16/23](#)] (VIDEO)

DeSpain Said She Agreed With The Decision To Overturn Roe V. Wade And Would Not Support Efforts To Codify Roe V. Wade In Congress. “DeSpain previously told the Capital Chronicle that she agreed with the U.S. Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe v. Wade, which for nearly 50 years federally protected the right to an abortion. Since it was overturned in 2022, state politicians have been left to decide whether residents can access legal abortions. DeSpain said the decision should remain with states and that she would not support a nationwide ban on abortion or efforts to codify Roe v. Wade in Congress. Oregon is among the least restrictive on abortion access nationwide, something that's not likely to change with a Democratic majority in the state House.” [Oregon Capital Chronicle, [5/2/24](#)]

The Dobbs Decision Paved The Way For Abortion Bans Impacting Millions Of Women

HEADLINE: “A Year After Fall Of Roe, 25 Million Women Live In States With Abortion Bans Or Tighter Restrictions.” [Associated Press, [6/22/23](#)]

- About 40% Of Women Lived In A Place Where There Are More Restrictions On Abortion Access Than There Were Before Dobbs.** “More than 25 million women ages 15 to 44, or about 2 in 5 nationally, now live in states where there are more restrictions on abortion access than there were before Dobbs. More than 5.5 million more live in states where restrictions have been adopted but are on hold pending court challenges. Bans on abortion no later than 12 weeks into pregnancy are on the books in nearly every state in the Southeast — though some are not in effect.” [Associated Press, [6/22/23](#)]

Fourteen States Banned Abortion After Dobbs. “Since June 24, 2022, 14 states have banned abortion across the United States, largely concentrated in the South. An additional 6 states have early gestational limits between 6 and 15 weeks LMP (last menstrual period). To access abortion services, people living in states where abortion is banned or severely restricted either have to travel out of state—often incurring additional costs related to travel and loss of wages—or obtain medication abortion drugs from companies who ship the pills without requiring a clinician visit or from providers in states with shield-laws.” [KFF, [6/20/24](#)]

As Of June 27, 2024, Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee, And Texas Had Abortion Bans With No Exceptions For Rape Or Incest. [CNN, accessed [6/27/24](#)]

STATE	Legal status of abortion	Details
Alabama	Banned	Abortion is banned with no exceptions for rape or incest.
Arkansas	Banned	Abortion is banned with no exceptions for rape or incest.
Idaho	Banned	Near-total ban in place.
Indiana	Banned	Abortion is banned with limited exceptions. The Indiana Supreme Court certified a ruling that outlaws nearly all abortions in the state and denied a petition for a rehearing.
Kentucky	Banned	Abortion is banned with no exceptions for rape or incest.
Louisiana	Banned	Abortion is banned with no exceptions for rape or incest.
Mississippi	Banned	Near-total ban in place, includes exception for rape but not incest.
Missouri	Banned	Abortion is banned with no exceptions for rape or incest.
North Dakota	Banned	Abortion is banned with exceptions for rape or incest in the first six weeks of pregnancy.
Oklahoma	Banned	Abortion is banned with no exceptions for rape or incest.
South Dakota	Banned	Abortion is banned with no exceptions for rape or incest.
Tennessee	Banned	Abortion is banned with no exceptions for rape or incest.
Texas	Banned	Abortion is banned with no exceptions for rape or incest.

[CNN, accessed [6/27/24](#)]**An Overwhelming Majority Of Oregonians Supported Abortion Access**

August 2022: 72% Of Oregonians Said Abortion Should Be Legal In All Or Most Cases. “Oregonians support abortion rights at a higher rate than the national average, a recent survey from the Oregon Values and Beliefs Center showed. The Portland-based nonpartisan public opinion research organization surveyed 1,572 Oregonians in July about abortion, gun control, drought and their thoughts on government. It found stronger support for abortion rights than a similar national survey from the Pew Research Center: 72% of Oregonians said abortion should be legal in most or all cases, compared to 62% of all Americans.” [Oregon Capital Chronicle, [8/16/22](#)]

- **61% Of Rural Oregonians Said Abortion Should Be Legal.** “Urban residents were more likely to support abortion rights than suburban or rural residents, but even 61% of rural respondents said they believed abortion should be legal.” [Oregon Capital Chronicle, [8/16/22](#)]

HEADLINE: “Oregon Voters Trounce Ballot Measure That Sought To Curb State Funding Of Abortion.” [Oregon Public Broadcasting, [11/6/18](#)]

- **2018: Oregon Voters “Soundly Defeated” A Ballot Measure That Would Stop State Funding For Abortion And Prevent Public Employees From Receiving Abortion Coverage In Their Health Insurance.** “Oregon voters soundly defeated a ballot measure Tuesday that would restrict public funding for abortion in the state. Measure 106 was aimed at forcing Oregon to stop paying for the abortions of low-income women except in limited circumstances. It also sought to prevent public employees from receiving abortion coverage as part of their health insurance.” [Oregon Public Broadcasting, [11/6/18](#)]
- **2018: Oregon Voters Defeated An Anti-Abortion Ballot Measure By A Margin Of 64-36%.** [Oregon Public Broadcasting, [11/6/18](#)]

Measure 106 - No Public Abortion Funding

5:34 a.m. November 13

100% Reporting

This constitutional amendment would have [barred the use of public funds to pay for abortions](#), impacting people on Medicaid and government employees.

[Oregon Public Broadcasting, [11/6/18](#)]**Monique DeSpain Defended MAGA Mike Johnson And Donald Trump****DeSpain Defended MAGA Mike Johnson, Saying He Was “In A Very Difficult Situation” As House Speaker**

DeSpain Defended Mike Johnson, Saying He Was “In A Very Difficult Situation” As House Speaker. HOST: “Now you’ve brought up Mike Johnson as House Speaker. If you get in, are you going to be happy with him to continue as House Speaker? Because I’m not very happy with what he’s done lately at all.” DESPAIN: “I don’t think anyone would be—we wouldn’t be happy with anyone probably. He’s in a very difficult situation. He just started. Less than six months. We all saw the chaos leading up to his being selected, and I would support—I think that’s part of the problem, the leadership needs to fly in formation for a little while at least.” [The Lars Larson Show, Soundcloud, 2:46, [5/2/24](#)] (AUDIO)

- **Trump Nicknamed Johnson “MAGA Mike Johnson” When Johnson Was Elected House Speaker.** “It was Donald Trump who bestowed the ‘MAGA Mike Johnson’ nickname on the House speaker the day he won the gavel.” [U.S. News and World Report, [5/9/24](#)]

DeSpain Was “Quite Pleased” With Mike Johnson And “His Own Personal Values,” Which Were Rooted In Abortion Opposition And Homophobia

DeSpain Said She Was “Quite Pleased” With Mike Johnson And The Fact That He Was “Not Shy About His Own Personal Values”

DeSpain Said She Was “Quite Pleased” With Mike Johnson And The Fact That He Was “Not Shy About His Own Personal Values,” Which Was A Sign Of His Integrity. HOST: “What are your thoughts on current Speaker Mike Johnson?” DESPAIN: “I’m quite pleased with him, actually. You know, that was just remarkable to get the consensus that is what we need right now. Somebody who can get everyone to the table. He is not shy about his own personal values, I think that’s a sign of integrity. I think that he has, well he’s obviously equipped, and he comes to the table with a lot of the tools that I’m describing that I have. But I’m eager to see the progress that I am expecting to see.” [KVAL News, YouTube, 16:40, [11/16/23](#)] (VIDEO)

- **DeSpain Said Integrity Was The Core Value That A Political Leader Should Have.** HOST: “What core values do you believe are essential for a political leader? Let’s start with the last question first.” DESPAIN: “Those are great questions. Core values—integrity. I guess that Air Force integrity first is engrained in me, and it’s the first thing that I think of. Integrity, honesty, and accountability, and remembering that this is a representative position. That’s what we are as elected officials, we represent the people that send us to DC.” [KPNW, 2:11, [3/18/24](#)] (AUDIO)

Johnson’s Personal Values Were Rooted In Abortion Opposition And Homophobia

Johnson Wanted To “Get The Number Of Abortions To ZERO!!” “And now... FINALLY... because Roe v. Wade was overturned last summer and Louisiana is now a proudly pro-life state— we will get the number of abortions to ZERO!! EVERYONE deserves a birthday. Thanks be to God.” [Speaker Mike Johnson, Twitter, [1/21/23](#)]



[Speaker Mike Johnson, Twitter, [1/21/23](#)]

Johnson Advocated For “Hard Labor For 1-10” Years For Doctors Who Perform Abortions. “BREAKING: Late yesterday, the La. Department of Health informed abortion facilities in our state that the right to life has now been RESTORED! Perform an abortion and get imprisoned at hard labor for 1-10 yrs & fined \$10K-\$100K.” [Speaker Mike Johnson, Twitter, [6/25/22](#)]



[Speaker Mike Johnson, Twitter, [6/25/22](#)]

Johnson Called Homosexuality “Inherently Unnatural” And Feared It Would Lead To Legalized Pedophilia And Destroy “The Entire Democratic System.” “In editorials that ran in his local Shreveport, Louisiana, paper, The Times, Johnson called homosexuality a ‘inherently unnatural’ and ‘dangerous lifestyle’ that would lead to legalized pedophilia and possibly even destroy ‘the entire democratic system.’ And, in another editorial, ‘Your race, creed, and sex are what you are, while homosexuality and cross-dressing are things you do,’ he wrote. ‘This is a free country, but we don’t give special protections for every person’s bizarre choices.’” [CNN, [10/25/23](#)]

DeSpain Spoke Against Removing Trump From Primary Ballots, But Declined To Comment On His Guilty Verdict Or Answer Directly Whether She Planned To Vote For Him

DeSpain Said Taking Donald Trump Off The Republican Primary Ballot Undermined Democracy

DeSpain Called The Colorado Supreme Court Decision To Remove Trump From The Republican Primary Ballot “A Very Dangerous Ruling” And Said It “Definitely Undermine[d] Democracy.” HOST: “The issue of the day came from yesterday’s Colorado Supreme Court decision to throw Donald Trump off the ballot. Do you see

the possibility of that happening in Oregon? Off the primary ballot?” DESPAIN: “Anything’s possible with everything we’re seeing, but that definitely undermines democracy, doesn’t it? People need the opportunity to vote. [...] That was a very dangerous ruling.” [The Lars Larson Show, Soundcloud, 6:37, [12/20/23](#)] (AUDIO)

When Asked If She Would Vote For Trump In 2024, DeSpain Said “I Will Not Be Voting For Joe Biden, That’s For Sure”

When Asked If She Would Vote For Trump In 2024, DeSpain Said “I Will Not Be Voting For Joe Biden, That’s For Sure.” HOST: “It’s also a presidential election, you may have heard from a couple people. And the two parties have essentially already picked their nominees. Will you be voting for Donald Trump for president?” DESPAIN: “Well, that’s a very direct question. I will not be voting for Joe Biden, that’s for sure.” [KMTR, 14:42, [4/18/24](#)] (VIDEO)

DeSpain Did Not Respond To A Request For Comment On The Trump Guilty Verdict

DeSpain Did Not Respond To A Request For Comment On The Trump Guilty Verdict. “The historic conviction of former President Donald Trump on 34 felony counts Thursday drew condemnation from Republicans who questioned the legitimacy of the legal process and elation from Democrats who said justice had been served. U.S. Rep. Lori Chavez-DeRemer, however, didn’t want to talk about the conviction when asked to comment Thursday. Instead, she focused on the issues facing Oregonians -- and didn’t once mention Trump. [...] Republican Air Force veteran Monique DeSpain, who will face Hoyle in the fall election, did not respond to a request for comment.” [Oregon Live, [6/4/24](#)]

Monique DeSpain Would Be A Rubber Stamp For The Extreme Republican Agenda

DeSpain Would Be A Rubber Stamp For The Extreme Republican Agenda, Saying The Only Way She Differed From The Republican Party Line Was Disagreeing With Republicans Who Did Not Think Border Security Was An Issue

The Only Republicans DeSpain Said She Disagreed With Were Republicans Who Did Not View Border Security As An Issue. “DeSpain said she would be an independent voice, not in lockstep with her party, but couldn’t immediately give an example of an issue where she differed from the Republican party line. She eventually said she would disagree with Republicans who don’t view border security as an issue.” [Oregon Capital Chronicle, [11/17/23](#)]

DeSpain Initially Could Not Give An Example Of Where She Differed From The Republican Party Line. “DeSpain said she would be an independent voice, not in lockstep with her party, but couldn’t immediately give an example of an issue where she differed from the Republican party line. She eventually said she would disagree with Republicans who don’t view border security as an issue.” [Oregon Capital Chronicle, [11/17/23](#)]

DeSpain Said She Would Not Support Efforts To Codify Roe V. Wade In Congress

DeSpain Said She Agreed With The Decision To Overturn Roe V. Wade And Would Not Support Efforts To Codify Roe V. Wade In Congress. “DeSpain previously told the Capital Chronicle that she agreed with the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision to overturn Roe v. Wade, which for nearly 50 years federally protected the right to an abortion. Since it was overturned in 2022, state politicians have been left to decide whether residents can access legal abortions. DeSpain said the decision should remain with states and that she would not support a nationwide ban on abortion or efforts to codify Roe v. Wade in Congress. Oregon is among the least restrictive on abortion access nationwide, something that’s not likely to change with a Democratic majority in the state House.” [Oregon Capital Chronicle, [5/2/24](#)]

DeSpain Would Not Advocate For The Best Interest Of Labor Groups, Saying She Was Not Pro-Union

DeSpain Contrasted Herself With A Local Elected, Saying “He’s A Union Guy, And I’m Not.” HOST: “So why did you pick the Congressional seat to run for versus something in Lane County?” DESPAIN: “I don’t think I could get elected in local office now. I think that CD 4 is a broader representation of America, of Oregon. I live in South Eugene, and the state rep position, I think that’s Paul Holvey, he’s a union guy, and I’m not. I’m for the people of the United States and Oregon. That national job is more suited to me with my background, especially the national security thing.” [KQEN News Radio, 7:06, [11/22/23](#)] (AUDIO)

DeSpain Said “It Certainly Looks Like” There Was Enough Evidence To Argue To Impeach Biden

DeSpain Said “It Certainly Looks Like” There Was Enough Evidence To Argue To Impeach Biden. HOST: “You worked as a military lawyer. I’d ask you, do you think the current Commander in Chief has been tied to enough criminal activity—you know, by Joe Biden, head of the Biden crime family—to argue for his impeachment as well?” DESPAIN: “It certainly looks like it. It’s very difficult for us people out here living our lives to get accurate information out of our government. One of my major platform issues is government transparency and accountability. And from where we sit, without all of the information, it certainly does look like there’s corruption in the White House.” [The Lars Larson Show, Soundcloud, 3:23, [11/16/23](#)] (AUDIO)

DeSpain Opposed “Any Gun Restrictions”

DeSpain Opposed “Any Gun Restrictions.” “I strongly urge each of you to vote NO on SB 348 or any gun restrictions on law abiding adult citizens and put real effort into eliminating drug and human trafficking from our state, to cause district attorneys to enforce the laws we already have and protect the rights of innocent citizens. Focus your energy on stopping criminal activities and separate the mentally ill and the criminal from guns.” [Oregon Legislature, accessed [11/8/23](#)]

- **DeSpain: “I Strongly Urge Each Of You To Vote NO On [...] Any Gun Restrictions On Law Abiding Adult Citizens.”** [Oregon Legislature, accessed [11/8/23](#)]

DeSpain Would Not Commit To Bringing Federal Money Back To Oregon And Advocated For Government Agency Cuts

After Being Asked Whether She Would Commit To Not Bring Money Back To Oregon Until The Federal Debt Was Resolved, DeSpain Said She Would Not Agree To Spending More Money Until The Money The Federal Government Has Already Spent Is Justified. HOST: “There are very few members of Congress over the decades who have actually said ‘look, my district doesn’t need anything. I’m not gonna come home, you know, with a big bunch of federal money.’ But every other member of Congress, even the Republicans, typically say, they want to brag on all the federal money they’ve brought back from Washington, DC, even when the treasury is effectively bankrupt. So it would be kind of tough, but wouldn’t it be interesting to take the position ‘I’m not bringing any federal money home. We don’t have more federal money. We’re borrowing money and our debt is too big.’ So, would it be possible to hear you say ‘I’m going to promise to go back to Congress and argue against sending money back to the states?’” DESPAIN: “Certainly until government is accountable for all the money, all the tax dollars they’ve been spending. We’ve been having the same problem in Oregon as, you know, we’ve been fighting against this public defense crisis. You know, where’s the money going? They’re always asking for more, it’s happening on the federal level too. So you’ll hear that from me: before we spend more money, tell me what you did with the money we just gave you and have been giving you for years. And I’m not seeing results, either.” [The Lars Larson Show, Soundcloud, 6:26, [11/16/23](#)] (AUDIO)

- **Oregon Received At Least \$4.5 Billion From The Federal Infrastructure Investment And Jobs Act Of 2021.** “In total, Oregon will receive at least \$4.5 billion over the next five years. This includes over \$1 billion in

additional federal funding from 2022-26 — a 38% increase, and an additional \$200 million in transit funding over that same period — a 35% increase.” [Oregon.gov, accessed [6/27/24](#)]

DeSpain Advocated For Government Agency Cuts. “DeSpain said she would look for these and other federal funding on programs she believes are ineffective and cut that spending. ‘Name a government agency. They're wasting your money,’ she said, citing the troubled implementation of pandemic rental assistance in Oregon as one example. DeSpain said she's qualified to do this work because of the investigations she undertook as a prosecutor and JAG officer.” [The Register Guard, [5/2/24](#)]

DeSpain Said She Did “Not Believe That Humans Are Causing Climate Change”

DeSpain: “I Do Not Believe That Humans Are Causing Climate Change. [...] To Think That Humans Are Going To Change The Climate Significantly Is Not My Position At All.” DESPAIN: “I do not believe that humans are causing climate change, or however they stated that specifically. But I do believe that human beings have an impact on the planet Earth. There are islands of trash floating in the Pacific Ocean. Human beings on the Earth have a major impact on the planet Earth. But to think that humans are going to change the climate significantly is not my position at all.” [The Lars Larson Show, Soundcloud, 7:02, [5/2/24](#)] (AUDIO)

DeSpain Said She Was Against Unions And Lobbied For An Organization That Was In A Coalition With A Group That Sought To Undermine Unions, Including In Oregon

DeSpain Said She Was Against Unions As She Contrasted Herself With A Local Elected, Saying “He’s A Union Guy, And I’m Not”

DeSpain Contrasted Herself With A Local Elected, Saying “He’s A Union Guy, And I’m Not.” HOST: “So why did you pick the Congressional seat to run for versus something in Lane County?” DESPAIN: “I don’t think I could get elected in local office now. I think that CD 4 is a broader representation of America, of Oregon. I live in South Eugene, and the state rep position, I think that’s Paul Holvey, he’s a union guy, and I’m not. I’m for the people of the United States and Oregon. That national job is more suited to me with my background, especially the national security thing.” [KQEN News Radio, 7:06, [11/22/23](#)] (AUDIO)

DeSpain Lobbied For An Organization That Was In A Coalition With A Group That Sought To Undermine Unions

2023: DeSpain Was General Counsel And A Lobbyist For Common Sense For Oregon

2023: DeSpain Became General Counsel For Common Sense For Oregon. [Monique DeSpain, LinkedIn, accessed [11/7/23](#)]

January 4-September 15, 2023: DeSpain Was Registered As An Oregon State Lobbyist For Common Sense For Oregon. [State of Oregon, accessed [11/7/23](#)]

DeSpain Promoted Her Work For Common Sense For Oregon In Her Campaign Biography. “In 2022, she joined the non-profit Common Sense for Oregon where she worked to formulate policies that would better serve Oregonians and improve public policies to address rampant homelessness, addition, and crime in Oregon communities.” [Monique DeSpain for Congress, Meet Monique, accessed [11/16/23](#)]

Common Sense For Oregon Was In A Coalition With Freedom Foundation

Common Sense For Oregon Was Part Of The Oregon Liberty Alliance

2023: Common Sense For Oregon Was In The Oregon Liberty Alliance. [Oregon Liberty Alliance, accessed [11/16/23](#)]

Common Sense For Oregon Was Part Of The Oregon Liberty Alliance As Early As 2014. “The Oregon Liberty Alliance (OLA) is an Oregon coalition of conservative organizations - many who have been working together for years - who formalized their coalition last year. The member organizations are the Oregon Family Council, Oregon Right to Life, Common Sense for Oregon PAC, Parents Education Association, Taxpayer Defense Project, Oregon Anti-Crime Alliance PAC and the Oregon Women’s League.” [The Oregon Catalyst, [3/16/15](#)]

Freedom Foundation Was In Oregon Liberty Alliance With Common Sense For Oregon

2023: Freedom Foundation Was In The Oregon Liberty Alliance. [Oregon Liberty Alliance, accessed [11/16/23](#)]

Freedom Foundation’s Mission Was To Undermine Public-Sector Unions

Freedom Foundation’s Mission Was To Undermine Public-Sector Unions. “The Freedom Foundation promotes free markets and limited, accountable government at every level. We do this by taking on the largest, most relentless obstacle to these objectives — public-sector unions that claim to represent workers but only want to plunder their paychecks and use the money to fund radical political candidates and causes.” [Freedom Foundation, About Freedom Foundation, accessed [11/16/23](#)]

Freedom Foundation Aimed To “Take On [Union Bosses’] Undue Influence In Our Political System.”

“Whether you’re a worker who’s been ripped off by union bosses, or a patriotic American who wants to take on their undue influence on our political system, the Freedom Foundation needs to hear from you!” [Freedom Foundation, About Freedom Foundation, accessed [11/16/23](#)]

2018-2020: Freedom Foundation Claimed To Help 70,000 Workers Drop Their Unions. “The Freedom Foundation claims to have assisted 70,000 public sector workers drop their unions since 2018.” [Oregon Public Broadcasting, [5/5/20](#)]

Freedom Foundation Fought Against Union Progress In Oregon

Freedom Foundation Released A Statement Against A Court Decision Allowing Legislative Assistants In The Oregon Legislature To Unionize. “This week, the Oregon Court of Appeals ruled that state Rep. Kim Wallan and her Legislative Assistant Sarah Daley do not have standing to challenge the Oregon Employment Relations Board unionizing all legislative assistants in the Oregon House and Senate under the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW). ‘Today’s decision from the Court of Appeals is laughable,’ said Freedom Foundation Northwest Director Jason Dudash. [...] ‘We very much look forward to appealing this poorly reasoned decision,’ concluded Dudash.” [Freedom Foundation, Press Release, [7/7/23](#)]

Freedom Foundation Argued Against Allowing Legislative Assistants In The Oregon Legislature To Unionize, Saying It Would Violate Separation Of Powers Provisions Of The State Constitution. “On Tuesday, the Oregon Court of Appeals heard oral arguments on the Oregon Employment Relation’s Board’s (ERB’s) decision to create a single labor union for all legislative assistants. The union ERB certified is the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 89. Attorneys for the Freedom Foundation argued that ERB’s decision violates the separation of powers guaranteed by the Oregon Constitution because the executive branch, in the form of ERB, will insert itself between the legislators and their employees, thus imposing on a separate, coequal branch of government.” [Freedom Foundation, Press Releases, [6/7/23](#)]

Freedom Foundation Attracted Negative Press For Being “Door-To-Door Union Killers” And “Hell-Bent On Defunding Public-Sector Unions”

Unions Said The State Policy Network, Which Freedom Foundation Is Part Of, “Aggressively Tries To Destroy Unions And Weaken The Working Class’s Collective Bargaining Power.” “Unions and pro-union groups repudiate the Freedom Foundation. The foundation is part of the State Policy Network, which unions and pro-union groups say aggressively tries to destroy unions and weaken the working class’s collective bargaining power.” [Oregon Public Broadcasting, [5/5/20](#)]

The Guardian: Freedom Foundation Was “Door-To-Door Union Killers.” “The door-to-door union killers: rightwing foundation takes labor fight to the streets The Freedom Foundation says its goal is to offer choices, but union leaders say it’s part of a conservative effort to flip Washington and Oregon from blue to red.” [The Guardian, [3/10/16](#)]

- **2016: Freedom Foundation Visited More Than 10,000 Childcare And Home-Care Workers In Washington And Oregon To Get Them To Opt Out Of Paying Union Dues.** “A conservative group, the Freedom Foundation, has dispatched activists to visit the homes of more than 10,000 childcare and home-care workers in Washington and Oregon to advise them that under a two-year-old supreme court decision, they can opt out of paying union dues.” [The Guardian, [3/10/16](#)]

HEADLINE: “This Right-Wing Think Tank Is Hell-Bent On Defunding Public-Sector Unions. Is It Working?” [The New Republic, [12/28/22](#)]

- **Freedom Foundation’s Chief Executive Said “Government Unions Are A Root Cause Of Every Growing National Dysfunction In America.”** “Freedom Foundation’s chief executive, Aaron Withe, who started as an organizer for the group in 2015, wrote that ‘government unions are a root cause of every growing national dysfunction in America.’” [The New Republic, [12/28/22](#)]

SEIU: Freedom Foundation’s “ONLY Goal Is To Destroy Unions.” “The Freedom Foundation doesn’t care about working families – their ONLY goal is to destroy unions. Let’s send them a clear message. We’re sticking with our union!” [SEIU Local 73, accessed [11/17/23](#)]

Freedom Foundation Attracted Negative Press For Their Work Breaking Up Unions At The Start Of The Pandemic

HEADLINE: “Teachers, Firefighters Slam Freedom Foundation For Pandemic Union-Busting.” [Oregon Public Broadcasting, [5/5/20](#)]

- **Freedom Foundation Was Founded “To Urge People To Opt Out Of Public Sector Unions” And Leveraged The Pandemic To Try To Get Public Sector Union Members To Opt Out.** “The message came from the Freedom Foundation, a group founded in Washington state to urge people to opt out of public sector unions. It has recently taken fire for apparently leveraging the pandemic against public sector unions.” [Oregon Public Broadcasting, [5/5/20](#)]
- **At The Beginning Of The Pandemic, Freedom Foundation Began Calling Teachers And Firefighters To Encourage Them To Stop Paying Union Dues.** “Teachers unions are feeling the Freedom Foundation’s focus. Teachers report receiving emails and mailers and cold calls in March and April, trying to convince employees like Keiser to withdraw membership. Keiser, a photography teacher at Columbia River High School in Vancouver, hears these kinds of messages from the foundation regularly and said she disregards them. But she found it offensive during the outbreak. ‘I was shocked. It seemed kind of in poor taste to be sending this message out,’ she said. [...] Firefighters in Washington told OPB they’re also fielding calls. In mid-April, a

voicemail appeared at a bar owned by two Thurston County firefighters with a similar message. It was the same message sent to Keiser, the teacher in Vancouver, encouraging them to stop paying union dues in case the economy stalls and they need the money.” [Oregon Public Broadcasting, [5/5/20](#)]

2023: Oregon Had 255,000 Union Members

2023: Oregon Had 255,000 Union Members. “Oregon had 255,000 union members in 2023. In addition to these members, another 15,000 wage and salary workers in Oregon were represented by a union on their main job or covered by an employee association or contract while not union members themselves.” [Bureau of Labor Statistics, [2/29/24](#)]

DeSpain Was Washington, D.C. Extremists’ Pick For Congress, Which She Admitted By Saying She Was “Picked” By D.C. Entities And “I Don’t Think I Could Get Elected In Local Office”

DeSpain Said She Was “Picked” By D.C. Entities Like The NRCC To Run For Congress And Provide “Reinforcements” In D.C.

DeSpain On Why She Chose To Run For Congress Instead Of A Local Position: “I’m Just Going To Be Perfectly Honest, I Was Picked. [...] The NRCC And Organizations In DC [...] Need Reinforcements, And I Couldn’t Say No.” HOST: “I’ve asked this question of newer candidates on both sides of the aisle numerous times over the years. How did you pick running for Congress maybe instead of something more local in Lane County?” DESPAIN: “Well, Kyle, I’m just going to be perfectly honest, I was picked. If you had asked me one year ago if I was thinking about going to DC and representing my neighbors and people of the 4th District, I would have told you you were crazy. [...] The NRCC and organizations in DC that support sitting Congresspeople, you know, they need reinforcements, and I couldn’t say no. I just feel called to serve in this way and I was asked to do so, and I am prepared, so I’m doing it.” [KQEN News Radio, 7:07, [5/9/24](#)] (AUDIO)

DeSpain Said She Decided To Run For Office After She “Took A Trip To DC” And Had “People Who Are Always Looking For Good Candidates” Reach Out To Her. HOST: “What was that moment where you said—because here you were, private citizen, you know you’re doing your thing, you’re a crime victim rights advocate and the like—where you just said ‘you know, no, I might as well try this.’ What was that moment?” DESPAIN: “You know, Bill, you’ve asked this question before. I’ll tell you my actual moment. I hesitated before. But it was a combination of things, it was a pretty quick, the idea came up, the proposal I was invited to consider it by people who are always looking for good candidates and how they can be supported. I took a trip to DC.” [KPNW, 18:59, [3/18/24](#)] (AUDIO)

DeSpain: “I Don’t Think I Could Get Elected In Local Office”

DeSpain: “I Don’t Think I Could Get Elected In Local Office.” HOST: “So why did you pick the Congressional seat to run for versus something in Lane County?” DESPAIN: “I don’t think I could get elected in local office now. I think that CD 4 is a broader representation of America, of Oregon. I live in South Eugene, and the state rep position, I think that’s Paul Holvey, he’s a union guy, and I’m not. I’m for the people of the United States and Oregon. That national job is more suited to me with my background, especially the national security thing.” [KQEN News Radio, 7:06, [11/22/23](#)] (AUDIO)

DeSpain Was Called The “Beltway Choice” And Supported By “Republicans In Washington”

National Journal: DeSpain Was The “Beltway Choice” For OR-04. “OR-04. Air Force veteran Monique DeSpain (R) defeated 2022 OR-06 candidate Amy Ryan Courser (R), 59%-41%, with nearly 80% of the vote

counted. DeSpain was the favorite and the Beltway choice to take on Rep. Val Hoyle (D). (AP)” [National Journal Hotline, 5/22/24]

Roll Call: “Republicans In Washington” Supported DeSpain, Saying She “Could Run A Strong Campaign Against [Hoyle].” “While the contest in the southern Willamette Valley is rated Likely Democratic by Inside Elections, Republicans in Washington, D.C., say Hoyle is vulnerable. They are raising allegations of wrongdoing from when she was the head of the Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries and believe DeSpain will run a strong campaign.” [Roll Call, [5/22/24](#)]

DeSpain Was “Honored” To Be Endorsed By Extreme Republicans

DeSpain Was “Proud And Honored” To Receive Mike Johnson’s Endorsement

DeSpain: “I Am Proud And Honored To Announce That Speaker Johnson Has Officially Endorsed Our Campaign!” “I am proud and honored to announce that Speaker Johnson has officially endorsed our campaign! His endorsement is a testament to the strength of our message and the momentum we are building together. Speaker Johnson stated, ‘I am proud to endorse Monique DeSpain for Congress in Oregon’s 4th Congressional District. As a political outsider, a retired Air Force Colonel, and a mom, she is uniquely qualified to take on career politician Val Hoyle. Monique is committed to securing our southern border, reducing crime, and addressing the homeless crisis in Oregon. I am confident she will put Oregon first and deliver for voters of the 4th District.’” [Monique DeSpain, Fundraising Email, 5/15/24]

DeSpain Was “Pleased And Honored” To Be Endorsed By Elise Stefanik

DeSpain: “I’m Very Pleased And Honored To Receive The Endorsement Of Republican House Conference Chair Elise Stefanik In My Campaign.” “‘I’m very pleased and honored to receive the endorsement of Republican House Conference Chair Elise Stefanik in my campaign to oust corrupt career politician Val Hoyle and launch a new era of commonsense, results-oriented leadership that listens and acts on the top priorities of the people of Oregon’s 4th District in Congress,’ said Monique DeSpain. ‘Chairwoman Stefanik has set a high standard in Congress with her tireless work ethic, policy leadership, genuine grassroots connection with constituents, and laser focus on delivering real results. She is unapologetic about fighting every day to give her constituents a seat at the absolute highest levels of government,’ added DeSpain.” [DeSpain for Congress, Press Releases, [5/15/24](#)]

DeSpain Was Endorsed By Elise Stefanik And Was To Receive Fundraising Support From Stefanik’s Leadership PAC. “RACE FOR THE HOUSE: Stefanik PAC Doles Out Challenger Endorsements E-PAC, the PAC aligned with Conference Chair Elise Stefanik announced its first slate of challenger endorsements for the 2024 cycle in a list first shared with Hotline. WELCOME TO THE WORLD. The PAC endorsed Lt. Gov. Nancy Dahlstrom (R) in AK-AL, attorney Caroleene Dobson (R) in AL-02, Public Service Commissioner Julie Fedorchak (R) in ND-AL, 2022 Lt. Gov. nominee Alison Esposito (R) in NY-18, Army veteran Laurie Buckhout (R) in NC-01, former Rep. Yvette Herrell (R) in NM-02, Air Force veteran Monique DeSpain (R) in OR-04, and former Rep. Mayra Flores (R) in TX-34. VIPS ONLY. The PAC will fundraise digitally for the candidates, host them in Washington for high-dollar fundraisers, and establish a joint fundraising committee with these candidates. (Hotline reporting)” [National Journal Hotline, 5/15/24]

Stefanik: “I Am Proud To Endorse Monique DeSpain For Congress.” “I am proud to endorse Monique DeSpain for Congress. Monique is a fighter and will be a staunch advocate for Oregon’s 4th Congressional District and our nation in Congress. As a retired Air Force Colonel, single mother, and attorney, Monique understands how to get things done and doesn’t shy away from a challenge. Monique will fight to secure our border, combat the homeless crisis in Oregon, support law enforcement to reduce crime, and fight to get our economy back on track. I am excited to endorse Monique for Congress and look forward to the work she will do for OR-04 in Congress.” [Elise Stefanik, Facebook, [5/15/24](#)]



[Elise Stefanik, Facebook, [5/15/24](#)]

DeSpain: “Thank You @EliseStefanik For Your Support To #Deploymonique.” “I am humbled and honored to stand with these #EPAC rising star Republican women of merit who deeply love our country as I do. We're fighting for commonsense policies and bold action to #SaveAmerica. Thank you @EliseStefanik for your support to #deploymonique #or04” [MoniqueforCongress, Twitter, [6/12/24](#)]



[MoniqueforCongress, Twitter, [6/12/24](#)]

DeSpain Said It Was Her “Distinct Honor” To Be Endorsed By Steve Scalise

DeSpain: “It’s My Distinct Honor To Have The Endorsement Of Republican Majority Leader Steve

Scalise. “Today, GOP Majority Leader Steve Scalise of the U.S. House of Representatives announced his endorsement of Republican candidate Monique DeSpain to represent Oregon’s Fourth Congressional District. ‘As a retired Air Force Colonel, attorney, and single mother, Monique DeSpain knows what it means to roll up her sleeves and get things done. She will fight to secure our border, rebuild our economy, reduce crime, and support law enforcement. Unlike her democrat opponent, Monique will deliver for the people of Oregon and I am proud to endorse her in her race for Congress in Oregon’s 4th Congressional District,’ said Majority Leader Steve Scalise. ‘It’s my distinct honor to have the endorsement of Republican Majority Leader Steve Scalise in my campaign to unseat corrupt career politician Val Hoyle and bring my commonsense, accountability-focused, problem-solving leadership to Congress on behalf of the people of Oregon’s 4th District,’ said Monique DeSpain.” [Monique DeSpain for Congress, Press Release, [4/29/24](#)]

DeSpain Faulted Congressional Democrats For Not Taking Action On The Border, After Congressional Republicans Halted A Bipartisan Border Deal At Trump’s Request

March 2024: DeSpain Faulted Democrats For Not Taking Action On The Border

March 2024: When Asked What Congress Should Do To Secure The Border, DeSpain Provided No Solution But Said “There Are Some Proposals On The Table, And You’ll See That It’s All The Democrats That Are Resisting Closing The Border.” DESPAIN: “Well I get this question, like what am I going to do [about the border in Congress]. Is the solution don’t go because it’s going to be tough and difficult?” HOST: “Well, no, so the question is, what is your answer for it?” HOST: “Well I just suggested an executive order. Unfortunately, we have a President right now who wants the border open. If we had a President who wanted it closed, we’d get an executive order immediately, right? We’ve already seen that so I would suggest that would be the first step. In Congress, you need to get, I mean we can’t do it right now right, I’m gonna get there as fast as I can get there—January of 2025. There are some proposals on the table, and you’ll see that it’s all the Democrats that are resisting closing the border. So, common sense would dictate, get more politicians there that want the border closed. When I get there, it’s just not rocket science how to secure a border of the world’s superpower. I have it on my website, I’ve published press releases, whatever it takes to secure the border, all of the above, the physical barrier, cybersecurity, and you empower border security to secure the border, not let people in.” [KPNW, 7:25, [3/18/24](#)] (AUDIO)

Democrats Had A Comprehensive And Bipartisan Border Solution, Which Republicans Killed At Trump’s Request

Democrats Advocated For The Bipartisan Border Security Package

Democrats Advocated For The Bipartisan Border Security Package, Which Biden Also Endorsed. “Senate Democrats plan to force a vote Thursday on the bipartisan border security package that Republicans blocked this year, an attempt to flip the script on immigration politics, a major vulnerability for President Joe Biden. The legislation, negotiated by Republican and Democratic senators, is designed to reduce border crossings, raise the bar for migrants to qualify for asylum and quickly turn away those who fail to meet it. It empowers the president to shut down the border if certain triggers are met. If it becomes law, it would be the most sweeping set of migration restrictions in decades. Biden has endorsed the bill.” [NBC News, [5/20/24](#)]

The Bipartisan Border Package Had Comprehensive And Commonsense Reforms, Including Hiring More Border Patrol Officers, Increasing Detention Capacity, And Improving Technology To Detect Fentanyl At The Southern Border

The Bipartisan Border Deal Would Have Added More Than 1,500 Border Patrol Officers. “Border Patrol staffing has remained roughly flat over the last four years, despite border encounters increasing by 250 percent over

the same period. Today, there are just shy of 20,000 Border Patrol Agents. The bipartisan Senate bill would add more than 1,500 new Customs and Border Protection personnel.” [White House, [2/29/24](#)]

The Bipartisan Border Deal Would Increase Immigration And Customs Enforcement Detention Beds. “ICE detention facilities are currently over capacity. Today, ICE has approximately 40,000 detention beds. The bipartisan Senate agreement would increase detention beds to a total of 50,000. Moreover, without immediate action from Congress DHS will need to move funding to ICE from other critical missions or reduce ICE’s enforcement operations to manage a shortfall of several hundred million dollars.” [White House, [2/29/24](#)]

The Bipartisan Border Deal Would Install Fentanyl Detection Machines At The Southwest Border. “We continue our fight against the trafficking of fentanyl and other illicit drugs. The bipartisan agreement would fund the installation of 100 cutting-edge inspection machines to help detect fentanyl at our Southwest Border ports of entry. It would also give the President the authority to impose sanctions on foreign nationals knowingly involved in significant trafficking of fentanyl by a transnational criminal organization.” [White House, [2/29/24](#)]

The Border Patrol Agents’ Labor Union Endorsed The Bipartisan Border Agreement

The Border Patrol Agents’ Labor Union Endorsed The Bipartisan Border Agreement. “As conservatives in Congress have blasted the new bipartisan border agreement for not going far enough, the legislation earned a key endorsement on Monday: the labor union that represents U.S. Border Patrol agents. The National Border Patrol Council — which represents more than 18,000 agents — said the bill would ‘drop illegal border crossings nationwide and will allow our agents to get back to detecting and apprehending those who want to cross our border illegally and evade apprehension.’” [NBC News, [2/5/24](#)]

February 2024: Republicans Backed Out Of The Bipartisan Border Security Bill At Trump’s Request

HEADLINE: “Republicans Kill Border Bill In A Sign Of Trump's Strength And McConnell's Waning Influence.” [NBC News, [2/7/24](#)]

- **Trump Pushed Republicans To Oppose The Bipartisan Border Security Bill.** “It was a jarring moment on Capitol Hill that pointed to a changed landscape: The Kentucky Republican, a one-man power center for more than a decade, is seeing his influence with fellow senators wane as his party continues to transform into the right-wing populist mold of Donald Trump. The former president, who fiercely opposed the border deal and has long pushed fellow Republicans to turn away from McConnell, is cruising to a third consecutive GOP presidential nomination.” [NBC News, [2/7/24](#)]

DeSpain Allied Herself With Anti-Gay And Anti-Abortion Organizations And Individuals

DeSpain Was A Lobbyist For An Organization That Historically Stood Against Gay Marriage And Abortion And Partnered With Groups That Opposed Gay Marriage And Abortion, Even In 2023

2023: DeSpain Was General Counsel And A Lobbyist For Common Sense For Oregon

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DeSpain Promoted Her Work For Common Sense For Oregon In Her Campaign Biography. “In 2022, she joined the non-profit Common Sense for Oregon where she worked to formulate policies that would better serve Oregonians and improve public policies to address rampant homelessness, addition, and crime in Oregon communities.” [Monique DeSpain for Congress, Meet Monique, accessed [11/16/23](#)]

Common Sense For Oregon Was In A Coalition With Groups That Opposed Abortion And Same-Sex Marriage, Even In 2023

Common Sense For Oregon Was Part Of The Oregon Liberty Alliance

2023: Common Sense For Oregon Was In The Oregon Liberty Alliance. [Oregon Liberty Alliance, accessed [11/16/23](#)]

Common Sense For Oregon Was Part Of The Oregon Liberty Alliance As Early As 2014. “The Oregon Liberty Alliance (OLA) is an Oregon coalition of conservative organizations - many who have been working together for years - who formalized their coalition last year. The member organizations are the Oregon Family Council, Oregon Right to Life, Common Sense for Oregon PAC, Parents Education Association, Taxpayer Defense Project, Oregon Anti-Crime Alliance PAC and the Oregon Women's League.” [The Oregon Catalyst, [3/16/15](#)]

Oregon Family Council, An Organization Who Advocated For Marriage Only Defined As “A Man And A Woman” And Who Was Pro-Life, Was Part Of The Oregon Liberty Alliance With Common Sense For Oregon

2023: Oregon Family Council Was In The Oregon Liberty Alliance. [Oregon Liberty Alliance, accessed [11/16/23](#)]

2023: Oregon Family Council’s Website Said Marriage “Must Not Be Redefined To Include Anyone But A Man And A Woman.” “Marriage is one of the essential building blocks of society. It provides a healthy and nurturing environment where current citizens, as well as future generations, are cared for, loved, and brought up to become productive members of society. As such, marriage must be protected and nourished. It must not be diluted by alternate living arrangements, and it must not be redefined to include anyone but a man and a woman.” [Oregon Family Council, Marriage & Family, accessed [11/16/23](#)]

Regarding Abortion, Oregon Family Council Was “Committed To Encouraging A Culture Of Life.” “The Oregon Family Council affirms that all individuals — regardless of their size or age — are valuable and have a right to live. Furthermore, we are committed to encouraging a culture of life in the state of Oregon.” [Oregon Family Council, Pro-Life, accessed [11/16/23](#)]

An Oregon Family Council Spokesperson Compared Gay Couples To Neo-Nazis When Discussing Why The Group Proposed A Ballot Measure That Would Allow Businesses To Refuse To Provide Services To Same-Sex Couples. “Oregon Jewish leaders are hopping mad over a statement by an anti-gay-marriage spokesperson who compared loving gay couples to neo-Nazis, according to the Oregonian's Jeff Mapes: Teresa Harke, a spokeswoman for the [Oregon Family Council] made the remarks while explaining the rationale for a proposed ballot measure from the group that would allow businesses to refuse to provide services for same-sex weddings if they had religious objections. ‘Would you expect a Jewish bakery to serve a neo-Nazi who wanted a cake with a swastika on it?’ Harke said in an interview with The Oregonian.” [Portland Mercury, [11/27/13](#)]

- **Oregon Family Council Spokesperson: “Would You Expect A Jewish Bakery To Serve A Neo-Nazi Who Wanted A Cake With A Swastika On It?”** [The Oregonian, [11/21/13](#)]

2014: After Gay Marriage Was Legalized, Oregon Family Council Leaders Said “We’re Not Changing On The Issue” In Reference To Their Same-Sex Marriage Opposition. “The group is no longer gearing up a campaign against a gay marriage ballot measure because a federal judge settled the issue in Oregon by striking

down the 2004 ban. The group's two leaders – executive director Jack Louman and communications director Teresa Harke – acknowledge that it's a difficult time for them on the issue of gay marriage. ‘We're not changing on the issue, but I think fewer people are willing to stick their neck out on it because they don't feel it's safe to do so,’ said Harke.” [Oregon Live, [7/2/14](#)]

2004: Oregon Family Council Spearheaded A Campaign For An Initiative Banning Same-Sex Marriage.

“Ten years ago, the Oregon Family Council was a whirlwind of activity as the group spearheaded the campaign to qualify an initiative banning same-sex marriage.” [Oregon Live, [7/2/14](#)]

Oregon Right To Life, A Group That “Oppose[d] Abortion At Any Point Of Gestation,” Was Part Of The Oregon Liberty Alliance With Common Sense For Oregon

2015: Oregon Right To Life Was Part Of The Oregon Liberty Alliance. “The Oregon Liberty Alliance (OLA) is an Oregon coalition of conservative organizations - many who have been working together for years - who formalized their coalition last year. The member organizations are the Oregon Family Council, Oregon Right to Life, Common Sense for Oregon PAC, Parents Education Association, Taxpayer Defense Project, Oregon Anti-Crime Alliance PAC and the Oregon Women's League.” [The Oregon Catalyst, [3/16/15](#)]

- **Oregon Right To Life Participated In The Oregon Liberty Alliance’s Freedom Rally As Recently As 2018.** “Oregon Congressman Greg Walden joined the fifth annual Freedom Rally hosted by the Oregon Liberty Alliance, a coalition of conservative organizations that support conservative candidates and causes. Rep. Bill Post, R-Keizer, emceed the rally along with Liberty Pike, the communications director for Oregon Right to Life.” [Statesman Journal, [2/3/18](#)]
- **As Of November 16, 2023, Oregon Right To Life Was Not Listed As A Member Of The Oregon Liberty Alliance.** [Oregon Liberty Alliance, accessed [11/16/23](#)]

Oregon Right To Life “Oppose[d] Abortion At Any Point Of Gestation.” “Oregon Right to Life believes in the sanctity of all human life from the moment of conception to natural death. Abortion ends the life of a genetically distinct, growing human being. We oppose abortion at any point of gestation. In rare cases, a mother may have a life threatening condition in which medical procedures intended to treat the condition of the mother may result in the unintended death of her preborn baby. At the same time, ORTL recognizes that modern medical practice has and will continue to increase the ability to save both the life of the mother and the baby.” [Oregon Right to Life, Positions, accessed [11/16/23](#)]

Oregon Right To Life’s Mission Was To Protect “All Innocent Human Life From Conception To Natural Death.” “Oregon Right to Life advocates for the most vulnerable human beings whose right to life is denied or abridged under current law. We work to reestablish protection for all innocent human life from conception to natural death.” [Oregon Right to Life, Who We Are, accessed [11/16/23](#)]

Oregon Right To Life: “Life Begins At Conception.” [Oregon Right to Life, Twitter, [6/12/23](#)]



[Oregon Right to Life, Twitter, [6/12/23](#)]

2014: Common Sense For Oregon Skipped A Republican Conference—The Dorchester Conference—After Organizers Tried To Move Republicans To The Left On Same-Sex Marriage And Abortion

2014: Common Sense For Oregon Skipped A Republican Conference, Citing Their Aversion To Conference Organizers Trying To Move The Party To The Left On “Same-Sex Marriage And Other Social Issues Like Abortion.” “Dorchester is an annual weekend gathering of Republicans in Seaside that celebrated its 50th year last weekend. Delegates attending the 2014 conference voted 233 to 162 to support a potential 2014 ballot initiative that would overturn Oregon’s constitutional ban on same-sex marriage. While the vote was not binding on any political party or individuals, it highlighted a growing divide between younger party members and more socially conservative members. The letter posted on the Republican Party’s website Monday was signed by Republican Party Chairman Art Robinson and Congressional District 5 Chairman Tyler Smith. In it they remind readers that Dorchester is an unofficial party gathering created by former Sen. Bob Packwood. ‘Senator Packwood explained that he designed the conference to try to pull the Republican party to the left on policy issues and that he originally set it up as a protest to exclude the official Republican party,’ according to the letter. Same-sex marriage and other social issues like abortion were cited as a reason three socially conservative groups, Oregon Right to Life, Oregon Family Council and Common Sense for Oregon, opted to skip this year’s conference in Seaside. The groups held an alternative forum in Clackamas for Republicans eschewing the Seaside gathering this year.” [Statesman Journal, [3/12/14](#)]

- **Common Sense For Oregon Said They No Longer Felt Welcome At The Conference And Were “Blindsided” By Decisions To Vote On Same-Sex Marriage And To Promote A Video Discussing Opposing An Abortion Ban.** “While some Republicans are spending Saturday in Seaside, others will be headed to Clackamas for a one-day alternative forum sponsored by three conservative groups, Oregon Right to Life, Oregon Family Council and Common Sense for Oregon. In a February letter to Dorchester board members, the groups said they no longer feel welcomed at the annual event. The letter cited the board's decision to debate and vote on same-sex marriage, and it's promotion of a video showcasing Dorchester founder, former U.S. Sen. Bob Packwood, reminiscing about how conference attendees once voted to oppose a ban on abortion. ‘Considering our past relationships, we actually find ourselves blindsided by the total disregard to our core issues,’ the letter stated.” [Statesman Journal, [3/6/14](#)]
- **Common Sense For Oregon’s Letter Denounced The Conference’s “Unveiled Agenda To Promote And Celebrate Liberal Causes Like Abortion-On-Demand [And] Pet Campaign Projects Like ‘Republicanizing’ Same-Sex Marriage.”** “Three conservative leaders in Oregon say they'll skip the annual Republican retreat on the coast this year because organizers have planned a debate over same-sex marriage and have circulated a video in which the conference founder reminisces about his ‘favorite moment’ - when attendees voted to oppose a ban on abortion. The letter was signed by Atteberry, Jack Louman of the Oregon Family Council and Kevin Mannix of Common Sense for Oregon. Their letter cites ‘the unveiled agenda to promote and celebrate liberal causes like abortion-on-demand, pet campaign projects like ‘republicanizing’ same-sex marriage and the attack on people of faith and their religious liberties ...’” [Argus Observer, [2/27/14](#)]

The Dorchester Conference Was The Largest Gathering Of Political Conservatives In Oregon. “The Dorchester conference is the largest gathering of political conservatives in Oregon each year.” [Democratic Party of Oregon, Press Releases, [2/28/18](#)]

Common Sense For Oregon Hosted Alternative Conferences To The Dorchester Conference Designed For Attendees “To Listen To A Range Of Speakers Who Oppose Same-Sex Marriage And Abortion”

2014: Common Sense For Oregon Hosted A Separate Event From The Dorchester Conference, Which Was Designed For Attendees “To Listen To A Range Of Speakers Who Oppose Same-Sex Marriage And Abortion.” “Last month, several prominent Oregon conservative groups -- Oregon Right to Life, Oregon Family Council, and Common Sense For Oregon -- denounced the Dorchester conference as a publicity stunt. They organized their own event Saturday in Clackamas. Seven hundred people showed up to listen to a range of

speakers who oppose same-sex marriage and abortion. Theresa Harke, with the Oregon Family Council, was one of the event's emcees. 'Oregonians outside of Multnomah County support the conservative values that were represented today, and there has to be somebody representing that voice,' she said." [Jefferson Public Radio, [3/8/14](#)]

2015: Oregon Liberty Alliance Hosted A “More Conservative Alternative To The Dorchester Conference” To Discuss “Issues Such As Abortion, Gay Marriage, Taxes, And Crime.” “For the second year in a row, a coalition of groups concerned with such issues as abortion, gay marriage, taxes and crime offered a more conservative alternative to the Dorchester Conference, the annual Republican issues-and-networking event being held this weekend in Seaside. Sponsors of the Freedom Rally, who formed a political committee called the Oregon Liberty Alliance, have expressed their unhappiness with the Dorchester Conference’s support of gay marriage and abortion rights.” [The Oregonian, [3/14/15](#)]

- **Common Sense For Oregon Was Part Of Oregon Liberty Alliance.** “The Oregon Liberty Alliance (OLA) is an Oregon coalition of conservative organizations - many who have been working together for years - who formalized their coalition last year. The member organizations are the Oregon Family Council, Oregon Right to Life, Common Sense for Oregon PAC, Parents Education Association, Taxpayer Defense Project, Oregon Anti-Crime Alliance PAC and the Oregon Women's League.” [The Oregon Catalyst, [3/16/15](#)]
- **The President Of National Right To Life Spoke At The Conference, Vowing That “One Day, All Unborn Children Will Be Protected.”** “Carol Tobias, president of National Right to Life, reeled off a series of victories that anti-abortion activists are winning in the increasing number of state governments controlled by Republicans, and she argued that public opinion is turning on the issue of abortion. ‘One day, all unborn children will be protected,’ Tobias said, ‘even in Oregon.’” [The Oregonian, [3/14/15](#)]

2016: The Oregon Liberty Alliance Hosted A Freedom Rally “To Support [...] Life,” Among Other Conservative Causes. “More than 1,700 people attended today's 2016 Freedom Rally for conservative values at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland. The rally, put on by the Oregon Liberty Alliance, was to support fiscal responsibility, life, public safety, family values, and religious liberty.” [Oregon Catalyst, [2/6/16](#)]

DeSpain Praised And Was Supported By Kevin Mannix, Who Pushed Anti-Gay Legislation And Was Opposed To Abortion

DeSpain Praised And Accepted Support From Kevin Mannix

DeSpain Elevated Her Work With Mannix As The Reason She Is Running For Office And Called Mannix “Just Delightful.” HOST: “Why are you running?” DESPAIN: “Why am I running? You know, I’ve thought a lot about this. I’ve been working the last few years since I retired at the end of 2019 I’ve been working with Kevin Mannix. You probably know him, just delightful, and I joined his fight on so many public safety issues that we have. He’s been doing it his whole career.” [Oregon Roundup Podcast, 7:01, [2/1/24](#)] (AUDIO)

Kevin Mannix Endorsed Monique DeSpain, Which DeSpain Promoted On Her Website. [Monique DeSpain for Congress, Endorsements, accessed [6/25/24](#)]

Mannix Pushed Anti-Gay Legislation And Was “Staunchly” Opposed To Abortion

Mannix Sponsored Legislation To Constitutionally Restrict Marriage To One Man And One Woman. “After a session prolonged by what many deemed divisive, anti-gay legislation, the remaining measure that would have reinforced the definition of marriage in Oregon went down with less than five minutes discussion Friday night. ‘I think this session, the religious political extremists pushed too hard,’ said Maura Roche, a lobbyist for Basic Rights Oregon, the state's biggest gay-rights group. Lawmakers, led by the bill's sponsor, Rep. Kevin Mannix, R-Salem, as

well as and Sen. Marilyn Shannon, R-Brooks, had lobbied all week to drum up enough Senate votes to send House Joint Resolution 4 to the ballot. The effort stemmed from a recent state appeals opinion known as the Tanner decision, which said it is unconstitutional for public employers to deny health benefits to the same-sex partners of employees. Rep. Kevin Mannix, who sponsored HJR 4 and several similar measures this session, said his efforts were motivated by that court case. If he were homophobic, he said, he would have begun this campaign long ago. [...] ‘I believe in the traditional definition of marriage,’ Mannix said. ‘I am absolutely opposed to validation of homosexual conduct.’ When HJR 4 arrived in the Senate earlier this week, it would have constitutionally restricted marriage to only one man and one woman. It did not specifically make reference to homosexuality.” [Statesman Journal, 7/24/99]

Mannix “Bragged” About Receiving An Endorsement From Oregon Right To Life.

“Republican Kevin Mannix bragged during an interview Tuesday on a Christian radio station that he had won an ‘exclusive’ endorsement from the state's major anti-abortion group, Oregon Right to Life. Even when he was a Democrat years ago, Mannix said on Portland's KPDQ, ‘I was clearly pro-life, unabashedly pro-life.’ For the second governor's race in a row, Mannix hopes abortion will play a major role in bringing him the Republican nomination, just as it did in 2002 when he beat two more well-funded opponents who favored abortion rights. The Mannix campaign has directed radio commercials and mailings to voters opposed to abortion. This week, his campaign is making thousands of automated calls to voters using the recorded voice of Gayle Atteberry, Right to Life's executive director.” [The Oregonian, 5/3/06]

Mannix Had “Staunch Anti-Abortion” Views. “State Rep. Kevin Mannix ‘has moved from the Democratic Party to the Republican Party, where his staunch anti-abortion, pro-traditional family and tough-on-crime views made him popular with the party's conservative wing.’ But Mannix ‘says that only begins to describe him.’” [National Journal Hotline, 12/18/01]

2023-2024: DeSpain Donated To State Senator Tim Knopp And Welcomed Him At Her Primary Election Night Event After He Led A Walkout That Watered Down Language For Abortion Protection, LGBTQ Protection, And Gun Violence Prevention

June 2023: State Senator Tim Knopp Led A Walkout To Block A Vote On Expanded Protections For Abortion Access And Gender Affirming Care In Oregon

Rolling Stone: Knopp Led Oregon Republicans On “A Sabotage Mission” After Protesting “A Proposal That Would Have Expanded Protections For Abortion Access And Gender-Affirming Care.” “The man spearheading Republicans’ efforts to retake the chamber was minority leader Tim Knopp. If they’d won, Knopp would have been anointed Senate president. But they lost. And instead of working to build on the modest gains they made in November, Knopp has led the Republican caucus on a sabotage mission that has disqualified 10 of its 13 members — one-third of the Oregon Senate — from running for reelection next term. The debacle, which began in early May, was initially portrayed as a principled stand against elitism, with Republicans claiming they were walking out in protest of the fact that bills were no longer written at an 8th grade reading level. They later admitted the walkout was actually about a proposal that would have expanded protections for abortion access and gender-affirming care. It’s a familiar story: Republican lawmakers, wildly out-of-step with their constituents on abortion, using any means necessary to impose restrictions or block protections.” [Rolling Stone, [6/1/23](#)]

- **Knopp Walked Out When A Bill Trying To Codify Abortion Protections Was Considered In The Oregon Senate.** “But casting the breakdown as driven by personal animus, another state house insider argues, lets Knopp and his fellow Republicans off the hook for a deeply unpopular political position. The bill that precipitated the walkout is HB 2002, an effort to codify the protections of Roe — including the ability of minors to obtain an abortion without parental permission — in state law. Oregonians are overwhelmingly supportive of abortion access, with 72 percent believing it should be legal in all or most cases, and

they previously defeated a ballot measure that would have required parental notification for abortions. (HB 2002 would also require insurers to cover gender-affirming care.)” [Rolling Stone, [6/1/23](#)]

Two-Thirds Of Legislators Must Be Present To Hold A Vote In The Oregon Legislature. “In Oregon, it takes only a simple majority to pass a piece of legislation, but at least two-thirds of the chamber must be present to hold a vote. For decades, the minority party has taken advantage of the rules, walking off the job when they want to kill bills they don’t have enough votes to defeat. Democrats pioneered the tactic back in 1971, but Republicans have invoked it with increased frequency in recent years, walking out to avoid voting on bills to fund schools (2019), limit greenhouse gas emissions (2019 and 2020), implement pandemic-era public health rules (2021), and redraw legislative districts (2021).” [Rolling Stone, [6/1/23](#)]

- **The Walkout Prevented The State Senate From Reaching The Quorum Needed To Pass Bills.** “The Republican boycott, which prevented the state Senate from reaching a two-thirds quorum needed to pass bills, was prompted by a sweeping measure on abortion and gender-affirming care that Republicans called too extreme. The measure would allow doctors to provide abortions regardless of a patient’s age, with medical providers not required to notify the parents of a minor in certain cases.” [KNKX, [6/15/23](#)]

June 2023: As A Result Of The Knopp-Initiated Walkout, Democrats Watered Down Abortion Protections, LGBTQ Protections, And Gun Safety Bills

As A Result Of The Knopp-Initiated Walkout, Democrats Watered Down An Abortion Protection Bill. “The deal reached Thursday included watering down Democratic measures intended to guarantee abortion access and prevent gun violence, as well as considering a Republican proposal that would allow the Legislature to impeach statewide elected officials.” [Oregon Capital Chronicle, [6/15/23](#)]

- **Democrats Weakened Language Concerning Parental Notifications For Abortion To Resolve The Walkout.** “As part of the deal to end the walkout, Democrats agreed to change language concerning parental notifications for abortion. Under the compromise, if an abortion provider believes notifying the parents of a patient under 15 years old would not be in that patient’s best interest, the physician would not have to notify the parents — but would need another provider to concur. However, no second opinion would be needed if involving a parent or guardian would lead to the abuse or neglect of the patient.” [KNKX, [6/15/23](#)]

As A Result Of The Knopp-Initiated Walkout, Democrats Shelved A Constitutional Amendment To Protect LGBTQ People From Discrimination. “Democrats also agreed to shelve a sweeping constitutional amendment that would have removed an unenforceable ban on same-sex marriage and prohibited discrimination against LGBTQ people.” [Oregon Capital Chronicle, [6/15/23](#)]

Democrats Removed Language Increasing Limits On Concealed Carry, Raising The Semiautomatic Rifle Purchasing Age From 18 To 21, And Punishing Manufacturing Or Transferring Undetectable Firearms. “Democrats also agreed to drop several amendments on a bill that would punish the manufacturing or transferring of undetectable firearms. The now-removed clauses would have increased the purchasing age from 18 to 21 for semiautomatic rifles and placed more limits on concealed carry.” [KNKX, [6/15/23](#)]

September 2023: Shortly After The Walkout, DeSpain Donated \$250 To Tim Knopp For State Senate, Her First Ever Political Donation To A State-Level Oregon Candidate

September 15, 2023: DeSpain Donated \$250 To Tim Knopp For State Senate. [Oregon Secretary of State, [9/15/23](#)]

Knopp Was The Only State-Level Oregon Candidate That DeSpain Had Ever Donated To. [Oregon Secretary of State, accessed [11/1/23](#)]

May 2024: DeSpain Welcomed And Thanked Tim Knopp At Her Primary Election Night Event

Tim Knopp Was Present At DeSpain’s Primary Election Night Event. DESPAIN: “State Senator Tim Knopp is honoring us today and my good friend, Monica, thank you!” [Monique DeSpain for Congress, YouTube, 1:14, [5/24/24](#)] (VIDEO)

DeSpain Opposed “Any Gun Restrictions”—Even Widely Supported Measures Like Background Checks, Permits To Purchase A Gun, And Raising The Legal Age To Purchase A Gun To 21—Then Moderated Her Position On The Campaign Trail**DeSpain Opposed “Any Gun Restrictions”**

DeSpain Opposed “Any Gun Restrictions.” “I strongly urge each of you to vote NO on SB 348 or any gun restrictions on law abiding adult citizens and put real effort into eliminating drug and human trafficking from our state, to cause district attorneys to enforce the laws we already have and protect the rights of innocent citizens. Focus your energy on stopping criminal activities and separate the mentally ill and the criminal from guns.” [Oregon Legislature, accessed [11/8/23](#)]

- **DeSpain: “I Strongly Urge Each Of You To Vote NO On [...] Any Gun Restrictions On Law Abiding Adult Citizens.”** [Oregon Legislature, accessed [11/8/23](#)]

DeSpain Described Herself As “A Strong Supporter Of The Second Amendment.” “DeSpain described herself as a strong supporter of the Second Amendment. She submitted written testimony to the Legislature opposing an omnibus gun bill that would have required all gun buyers to obtain a permit and require any legal challenges to the bill to be filed in Marion County to prevent opponents from venue-shopping to find a favorable judge in a more conservative rural county.” [Oregon Capital Chronicle, [11/17/23](#)]

DeSpain Wrote A Letter To The Oregon Legislature Opposing A Gun Safety Bill Requiring Background Checks, Permits To Purchase A Gun, And Raising The Legal Age To Purchase A Gun To 21**DeSpain Wrote A Letter To The Oregon Legislature Opposing S.B. 348**

DeSpain Opposed S.B. 348, Saying It Was Unconstitutional And Infringed On Second Amendment Rights. “I write in opposition to SB 348 (and M114). Not only is the contemplated legislation unconstitutional, but it is also presumptuous and morally wrong for any lawmaker to infringe upon the second amendment rights of Americans to defend themselves.” [Oregon Legislature, accessed [11/8/23](#)]

DeSpain: “No Oregon Law Will Ever Keep Unlawful Weapons Off The Street.” “Do you believe the limits our lawmakers have put on our law enforcement personnel make it possible for law enforcement to curtail unlawful guns in our streets, schools, businesses? No. Criminals who kill people with guns do not follow the law and they will not follow these new proposed laws. Oregon ‘law enforcement’ cannot even keep drug traffickers out of the controlled environment of Oregon prisons! The point is, no Oregon law will ever keep unlawful weapons off the street.” [Oregon Legislature, accessed [11/8/23](#)]

DeSpain: “S.B. 348 Merely Creates More Innocent Victims Of Crime.” “SB 348 merely creates more innocent victims of crime. Their blood will be on the hands of each politician who votes for this bill or anything like it.” [Oregon Legislature, accessed [11/8/23](#)]

S.B. 348 Was A Gun Safety Bill Requiring Background Checks, Permits To Purchase A Gun, Raising The Legal Age To Purchase A Gun To 21, And More Commonsense Gun Safety Provisions

Oregon S.B. 348 Would Create A Permit-To-Purchase And Ten-Round Magazine Limit And Require A Background Check Before Someone Purchased Or Transferred A Firearm. “It would create the permit-to-purchase and 10-round magazine limit part of Measure 114, but requires a background check to be completed before a purchase or transfer of a firearm.” [KOIN, [3/28/23](#)]

S.B. 348 Would Raise The Firearm Purchase Age In Oregon To 21 With The Exception Of Hunting Rifles And Shotguns. “It would raise the purchase age to 21 – with the exception of hunting rifles and shotguns.” [KOIN, [3/28/23](#)]

S.B. 348 Would Require Gun Purchasers To Obtain A Permit And Complete A Safety Course. “Senate Bill 348 would build upon Measure 114 by requiring gun purchasers to obtain a permit and undergo a safety course.” [Oregon Capital Chronicle, [4/24/23](#)]

S.B. 348 Would Mandate A 72-Hour Waiting Period Between Someone Clearing A Background Check And Obtaining A Gun. “Senate Bill 348: The bill was proposed by the Senate judiciary committee to build upon the framework of Measure 114, with additional requirements and restrictions. The bill would: Require a permit-to-purchase system, but not until July 1, 2024. Give the permit agent up to 60 days to approve or deny a permit application. That’s up from 30 days. Allow permit agents to charge up to \$150 for a five-year permit, up from \$65. Require a gun dealer to wait 72 hours to transfer a firearm to the purchaser after the background check clears. Require any legal challenges to be filed in Marion County Circuit Court.” [Oregon Capital Chronicle, [4/24/23](#)]

The Provisions Of The Gun Safety Bill S.B. 348 Were Widely Supported By The American Public
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Oregon S.B. 348 Required A Background Check Before Someone Purchased Or Transferred A Firearm. “It would create the permit-to-purchase and 10-round magazine limit part of Measure 114, but requires a background check to be completed before a purchase or transfer of a firearm.” [KOIN, [3/28/23](#)]

- **86% Of American Adults Supported Background Checks For Firearm Sales And Transfers.** “The McCourtney Institute for Democracy’s latest Mood of the Nation Poll, conducted from May 12-18, 2023, finds that 86 percent of American adults support U.S. Congress mandating background checks for all firearm sales and transfers.” [MPR News, [7/25/23](#)]

S.B. 348 Would Raise The Firearm Purchase Age In Oregon To 21 With The Exception Of Hunting Rifles And Shotguns. “It would raise the purchase age to 21 – with the exception of hunting rifles and shotguns.” [KOIN, [3/28/23](#)]

- **69% Of Republicans And 90% Of Democrats Supported Increasing The Minimum Age For Buying A Gun To 21.** “Majorities of U.S. adults in both partisan coalitions somewhat or strongly favor two policies that would restrict gun access: preventing those with mental illnesses from purchasing guns (88% of Republicans and 89% of Democrats support this) and increasing the minimum age for buying guns to 21 years old (69% of Republicans, 90% of Democrats).” [Pew Research, [9/13/23](#)]

S.B. 348 Would Require A Permit To Purchase A Gun. “Senate Bill 348 would build upon Measure 114 by requiring gun purchasers to obtain a permit and undergo a safety course.” [Oregon Capital Chronicle, [4/24/23](#)]

- **72% Of Americans Supported Requiring A Permit Before Purchasing A Firearm.** “72% of Americans support... requiring a person to obtain a license from a local law enforcement agency before buying a gun. [...]

Permit-to-Purchase laws, or firearm purchaser licensing, require an individual to apply for and obtain a license before purchasing a firearm. In most states with this policy, the process includes submitting an application to state or local police, getting fingerprinted, undergoing a comprehensive background check, and often involves safety training requirements.” [Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, [7/21/23](#)]

2024: On The Campaign Trail, DeSpain Amended Her Position, Saying She Would Support “Reasonable Measures To Separate The Mentally Ill From Weapons”

DeSpain Said She Would Protect The Second Amendment While Supporting “Reasonable Measures To Separate The Mentally Ill From Weapons.” “I support and will continue to defend our individual right to self-protection and our right to keep and bear arms under the 2nd Amendment,’ DeSpain told the Register-Guard, but she said does support ‘reasonable measures to separate the mentally ill from weapons.’ DeSpain said much of gun violence ‘is perpetrated by criminals, and the mentally ill, by using illegally obtained and possessed firearms,’ so can be curbed by enforcing existing laws.” [The Register Guard, [4/29/24](#)]

DeSpain Was A Lobbyist For An Organization That Advocated For Policies That Disproportionately Benefitted The Wealthy

2023: DeSpain Was General Counsel And A Lobbyist For Common Sense For Oregon

2023: DeSpain Became General Counsel For Common Sense For Oregon. [Monique DeSpain, LinkedIn, accessed [11/7/23](#)]

January 4-September 15, 2023: DeSpain Was Registered As An Oregon State Lobbyist For Common Sense For Oregon. [State of Oregon, accessed [11/7/23](#)]

DeSpain Promoted Her Work For Common Sense For Oregon In Her Campaign Biography. “In 2022, she joined the non-profit Common Sense for Oregon where she worked to formulate policies that would better serve Oregonians and improve public policies to address rampant homelessness, addition, and crime in Oregon communities.” [Monique DeSpain for Congress, Meet Monique, accessed [11/16/23](#)]

Common Sense For Oregon Advocated For Eliminating The Estate Tax, A Policy That Benefitted The Wealthy

Common Sense For Oregon Campaigned For An Initiative To Repeal Oregon’s Estate Tax That Could Also Enable The Wealthy To Avoid Paying Taxes On Capital Gains

Common Sense For Oregon Raised Hundreds Of Thousands Of Dollars To Get Measure 84, An Initiative To Repeal Oregon’s Estate Tax, On The Ballot. “It directly hits fewer than two in 100 taxpayers and, most likely, 2 percent of the state's discretionary income. No wonder supporters and opponents are tugging on emotions to get the average voter interested in Measure 84, which would repeal Oregon's estate tax. [...] Measure 84 would repeal Oregon's tax over four years. It would also bar ‘any tax’ on property sold between relatives. Experts say that second provision could enable landowners to get around capital gains taxes on stocks and other property. That clause ‘may create an opportunity to game the income tax system,’ Jeff Cheyne, a Portland estate-planning attorney, wrote in an Oregon State Bar newsletter. Farm bureaus, most business associations and conservative groups back the measure. Common Sense for Oregon, a nonprofit co-founded by Mannix, raised nearly \$500,000 to get the measure on the ballot. The group has contributed most of the additional \$325,000 the Yes on 84 campaign has raised since August. Mannix declined to reveal who donates to Common Sense.” [The Oregonian, [10/31/12](#)]

Measure 84 Could Enable Landowners To Avoid Paying Taxes On Capital Gains From Stocks And Other

Property. “Measure 84 would repeal Oregon's tax over four years. It would also bar ‘any tax’ on property sold between relatives. Experts say that second provision could enable landowners to get around capital gains taxes on stocks and other property. That clause ‘may create an opportunity to game the income tax system,’ Jeff Cheyne, a Portland estate-planning attorney, wrote in an Oregon State Bar newsletter.” [The Oregonian, [10/31/12](#)]

- **Measure 84 Could Create A Loophole To State Taxation On Capital Gains.** “But critics believe that the clause could create a loophole to state taxation on capital gains - any profit an individual or corporation makes when they sell an asset for more than its initial purchase price. The potential loophole might allow this maneuver: An individual sells an asset, like a piece of property or stocks, which has grown in value from \$500,000 to \$1.5 million to a family member for the appreciated value. The capital gains tax that would normally be owed by the seller at the time of sale would be exempted by Measure 84's Section 4(d) clause. The other family member could then immediately turn around and sell the asset to a third party for \$1.5 million but not owe any capital gains during that sale because the asset hasn't grown in value while in their possession.” [The Register-Guard, 10/22/12]

2023: Common Sense For Oregon Advocated For Eliminating Estate Taxes On Their Platform

Common Sense For Oregon Sought To Eliminate Estate Taxes In Oregon. “Common Sense for Oregon is advocating for estate tax reform in Oregon. Estate and inheritance taxes are burdensome. They disincentivize business investment and can drive high-net-worth individuals out-of-state. They are particularly harmful to family-owned businesses and farmers. They also yield estate planning and tax avoidance strategies that are inefficient, not only for affected taxpayers, but for the economy at large. It's time that Oregon rethinks the implications of the Oregon Estate Tax. Common Sense for Oregon continues to look for opportunities to reduce or eliminate the estate tax in Oregon by working with Legislators to introduce and pass legislation to meet this goal.” [Common Sense for Oregon, Reform Estate Tax, accessed [11/7/23](#)]

Eliminating Oregon's Estate Tax Would Benefit The Wealthiest Residents And Undermine The Ability To Fund Services Like Schools And Public Safety

Eliminating The Estate Tax In Oregon Would “Worsen The Racial Wealth Divide And Undermine [The] Abilities To Invest In Services That Benefit All Oregonians.” “The incident, however, is a warning to Oregonians to guard against efforts to weaken the only real mechanism we have for taxing extreme wealth. Repealing the estate tax would eliminate a check against the expansion of an economic aristocracy, worsen the racial wealth divide, and undermine our ability to invest in services that benefit all Oregonians.” [Oregon Center for Public Policy, [5/23/23](#)]

Oregon's Estate Tax Only Affects The Richest 5% Of Estates And Over Half The Revenue Comes From Estates Valued At More Than \$4.5 Million. “So all in all, very few Oregonians are subject to the estate tax. It only affects the richest 5 percent of estates. Among those paying the estate tax, over half of the revenue comes from estates valued at more than \$4.5 million.” [Oregon Center for Public Policy, [5/23/23](#)]

Oregon's Estate Tax Funds Public Services Like Schools, Health Care, And Public Safety. “Despite its narrow applicability, the estate tax generates significant revenue that Oregon uses to pay for essential public services. Right now, the estate tax contributes about half a billion dollars to the state budget, which funds our K-12 schools, higher education, health care, public safety, and more. Eliminating the estate tax, as the bipartisan group of lawmakers recently tried to do, would blow a big hole in state finances. It would mean chopping essential services like school funding or raising taxes on working folks to make up the shortfall. Either way, nearly all Oregonians would lose out, just so lawmakers could confer a big gift to the wealthiest families.” [Oregon Center for Public Policy, [5/23/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “Eliminating Estate Tax On Inherited Wealth Would Increase Deficits And Inequality.”
[Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [4/13/15](#)]

- **Eliminating Estate Taxes Would Exacerbate Wealth Inequality, “Benefiting Only The Heirs Of The Country’s Wealthiest Estates, Who Also Tend To Have Very High Incomes.”** “Exacerbate wealth inequality, which has grown significantly in recent decades. In 2012, the wealthiest 1 percent of American families held about 42 percent of total wealth, new data show.[3] Large inheritances play a significant role in the concentration of wealth; inheritances account for about 40 percent of all household wealth and are extremely concentrated at the top. Repealing the estate tax would exacerbate wealth inequality by benefiting only the heirs of the country’s wealthiest estates, who also tend to have very high incomes.” [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [4/13/15](#)]
- **Estate Taxes Support Public Services “Without Imposing Burdens On Low- And Middle-Income Americans.”** “It is an economically efficient way to raise revenue that supports public services and lowers deficits without imposing burdens on low- and middle-income Americans.” [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [4/13/15](#)]

Common Sense For Oregon Organized Against Republicans Who Voted For Tax Increases For Corporations And The Wealthy

Common Sense For Oregon Organized Against Republicans Who Voted For Income Tax Increases In Measures 66 And 67. “Ross Day of Keizer, director of Common Sense for Oregon, called for 100 volunteers willing to work one Saturday against the two House Republicans who voted for the budget-balancing income-tax increases that voters upheld Jan. 26 in Measures 66 and 67. Reps. Bob Jenson of Pendleton and Greg Smith of Heppner face challengers in the May 18 primary; the House Republicans are taking no official stance.” [Statesman Journal, 4/16/10]

Measure 66 Increased Taxes On Individuals Who Made More Than \$125,000 And Households That Made More Than \$250,000 And Eliminated A Federal Income Tax Deduction. “Measure 66 permanently raises the income tax rate for households with incomes over \$250,000 and individuals with incomes over \$125,000, while eliminating for high-income taxpayers an existing deduction for federal income taxes paid. (Joint filers with incomes over \$290,000 will be allowed no deduction.)” [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [2/17/10](#)]

Measure 67 Increased Income Taxes For Corporations With Profits Over \$10 Million And Raised The Minimum Corporate Income Tax From \$10 To 0.1% Of Oregon Sales. “Measure 67 temporarily increases the marginal corporate income tax rate for corporations with Oregon profits over \$250,000 and permanently increases the marginal rate for corporations with over \$10 million in Oregon profits. Measure 67 also raises the minimum corporate income tax from \$10 to \$150 for small companies (and for larger firms with few in-state sales) and from \$10 to about 0.1 percent of Oregon sales for all other corporations.” [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [2/17/10](#)]

Common Sense For Oregon Supported Income Tax Caps For Businesses And Individuals

Common Sense For Oregon Sought Caps On Business And Individual Income Taxes. “We advocate for eliminating the Oregon death tax, other ‘super’ taxes imposed on top of other taxes, and the cap-and-trade taxation system as well as, establishing caps on income taxes for businesses and individuals and clarifying exemptions from personal property taxes, especially for farm equipment.” [Common Sense for Oregon, Current Issues, accessed [11/7/23](#)]

DeSpain Worked For An Organization That Hosted Spokespersons From A Pro-Trump Super PAC And Turning Point USA At Their Rallies

2023: DeSpain Was General Counsel And A Lobbyist For Common Sense For Oregon

2023: DeSpain Became General Counsel For Common Sense For Oregon. [Monique DeSpain, LinkedIn, accessed [11/7/23](#)]

January 4-September 15, 2023: DeSpain Was Registered As An Oregon State Lobbyist For Common Sense For Oregon. [State of Oregon, accessed [11/7/23](#)]

DeSpain Promoted Her Work For Common Sense For Oregon In Her Campaign Biography. “In 2022, she joined the non-profit Common Sense for Oregon where she worked to formulate policies that would better serve Oregonians and improve public policies to address rampant homelessness, addition, and crime in Oregon communities.” [Monique DeSpain for Congress, Meet Monique, accessed [11/16/23](#)]

Common Sense For Oregon Was In The Oregon Liberty Alliance

2023: Common Sense For Oregon Was In The Oregon Liberty Alliance. [Oregon Liberty Alliance, accessed [11/16/23](#)]

Common Sense For Oregon Was Part Of The Oregon Liberty Alliance As Early As 2014. “The Oregon Liberty Alliance (OLA) is an Oregon coalition of conservative organizations - many who have been working together for years - who formalized their coalition last year. The member organizations are the Oregon Family Council, Oregon Right to Life, Common Sense for Oregon PAC, Parents Education Association, Taxpayer Defense Project, Oregon Anti-Crime Alliance PAC and the Oregon Women’s League.” [The Oregon Catalyst, [3/16/15](#)]

David Clarke, Jr., A Trump Super PAC Spokesman And Election Denier, Spoke At The Oregon Liberty Alliance’s Freedom Rally

2018: David Clarke, Jr. Headlined The Freedom Rally After Calling For Violence Against The Press. “Clarke is billed to headline the 2018 Freedom Rally organized by the Oregon Liberty Alliance, according to an event listing by the consortium of conservative groups. [...] Clarke, 61, is a vehement supporter of President Donald Trump and occasionally makes headlines for his attacks on the press and liberals. Twitter temporarily suspended Clarke’s account this week because he violated the website’s terms of service by posting tweets that called for violence against the press.” [The Oregonian, 1/4/18]

- **Clarke Was Temporarily Suspended From Twitter After Telling His Followers To “Punch [The Media] In The Nose & MAKE THEM TASTE THEIR OWN BLOOD.”** “Former Milwaukee Sheriff David A. Clarke, Jr., a vocal surrogate for President Donald Trump on the campaign trail, was temporarily blocked from tweeting after Twitter users’ complaints alerted the company that three of his messages violated the terms of service, CNN has learned. Clarke was placed in read-only mode until he deleted three tweets that seemed to call for violence against members of the media. In one of them, which has since been deleted, Clarke told his followers, ‘When LYING LIB MEDIA makes up FAKE NEWS to smear me, the ANTIDOTE is to go right at them. Punch them in the nose & MAKE THEM TASTE THEIR OWN BLOOD. Nothing gets a bully like LYING LIB MEDIA’S attention better than to give them a taste of their own blood #neverbackdown.’” [CNN, [1/2/18](#)]

Clarke Was A Pro-Trump Super PAC Spokesperson And Senior Adviser. “Former Milwaukee Sheriff David Clarke, a controversial figure in law enforcement and a vocal supporter of President Donald Trump, is joining the pro-Trump super PAC America First Action as a spokesman and senior adviser.” [Politico, [9/5/17](#)]

2016: Clarke Called On Trump Supporters To Take Up “Pitchforks And Torches” Against Democrats And The Media. “During the 2016 election, for instance, Clarke called for Trump supporters to take up ‘pitchforks and torches’ against Democrats and the media.” [Daily Beast, [3/14/23](#)]

2020: Clarke Invited The Proud Boys To Wisconsin, Backed Trump’s Election Fraud Claims, And Urged Insurrectionists Not To Cooperate With Law Enforcement. “In 2020, Clarke invited the far-right Proud Boys gang to Wisconsin, backed the ex-president’s false claims of election fraud, and urged Jan. 6 rioters not to cooperate with law enforcement.” [Daily Beast, [3/14/23](#)]

2022: A Turning Point USA Spokesperson Headlined The Oregon Freedom Rally

2022: A Turning Point USA Spokesperson Headlined The Oregon Freedom Rally. “Isabel Brown is a spokesperson for Charlie Kirk’s organization, Turning Point USA. She is the host of a daily show with TPUSA Productions called Freedom Seeds. Brown is the author of Frontlines: Finding My Voice on an American College Campus, an Amazon bestseller, sharing the reality from the heart of our nation’s culture war on college campuses. She will be speaking June 4th at the Oregon Freedom Rally. More details here” [Oregon Catalyst, [5/26/22](#)]

DeSpain Implied That South Eugene Was Not A Representation Of America

DeSpain Implied That South Eugene Was Not A Representation Of America, Saying “I Think That CD 4 Is A Broader Representation Of America, Of Oregon. I Live In South Eugene, And The State Rep Position, I Think That’s Paul Holvey, He’s A Union Guy, And I’m Not. I’m For The People Of The United States And Oregon.” HOST: “So why did you pick the Congressional seat to run for versus something in Lane County?” DESPAIN: “I don’t think I could get elected in local office now. I think that CD 4 is a broader representation of America, of Oregon. I live in South Eugene, and the state rep position, I think that’s Paul Holvey, he’s a union guy, and I’m not. I’m for the people of the United States and Oregon. That national job is more suited to me with my background, especially the national security thing.” [KQEN News Radio, 7:06, [11/22/23](#)] (AUDIO)

DeSpain Was A Registered Oregon Lobbyist As Recently As September 2023

January 4-September 15, 2023: DeSpain Was Registered As An Oregon State Lobbyist For Common Sense For Oregon. [State of Oregon, accessed [11/7/23](#)]

DeSpain Reported No Lobbying Expenditures During 2023. [State of Oregon, accessed [11/7/23](#)]

Despite Running On An Anti-Government Corruption Platform, DeSpain Praised And Accepted Support From A Career Politician With A Long History Of Ethics Complaints

DeSpain Campaigned On Fighting To Eliminate Government Corruption And Bringing “An End To The Careers Of Pay-To-Play Career Politicians”

DeSpain Campaigned On Fighting “To Eliminate Discrimination, Corruption, And Cronyism, Expose Conflicts Of Interest, And Bring An End To The Careers Of Pay-To-Play Career Politicians.” “Elected representatives of the American people have a legal and moral obligation to make all of their business of government, the business of the people, transparent and accountable to the people they serve. When elected, I commit to sharing all of my votes and my reasons behind them for all the public to see. I will ask the tough questions in relentless pursuit of the truthful, factual answers, followed by prompt and deliberate action. I will apply my experienced investigative eye, and my knowledge of the law, to expose wasteful spending. Much like my work as a military and private sector lawyer, I will fight to eliminate discrimination, corruption, and cronyism,

expose conflicts of interest, and bring an end to the careers of pay-to-play career politicians, starting with our corrupt Congresswoman Val Hoyle.” [Monique DeSpain for Congress, Issues, accessed [6/25/24](#)]

DeSpain Praised, Accepted Support From, And Worked For Kevin Mannix

DeSpain Called Kevin Mannix “Just Delightful” And Said He Was A Main Reason She Decided To Run For Office

DeSpain Elevated Her Work With Mannix As The Reason She Is Running For Office And Called Mannix “Just Delightful.” HOST: “Why are you running?” DESPAIN: “Why am I running? You know, I’ve thought a lot about this. I’ve been working the last few years since I retired at the end of 2019 I’ve been working with Kevin Mannix. You probably know him, just delightful, and I joined his fight on so many public safety issues that we have. He’s been doing it his whole career.” [Oregon Roundup Podcast, 7:01, [2/1/24](#)] (AUDIO)

Kevin Mannix Endorsed DeSpain

Kevin Mannix Endorsed Monique DeSpain, Which DeSpain Promoted On Her Website. [Monique DeSpain for Congress, Endorsements, accessed [6/25/24](#)]

2021-2024: DeSpain Was An Attorney For The Kevin Mannix Law Firm

2021: DeSpain Became An Attorney At The Kevin Mannix Law Firm. “Monique DeSpain joined the Kevin Mannix Law Firm in 2021, shortly after her retirement from the United States Air Force, and the Oregon Air National Guard, where she served for over 20 years as a military lawyer, retiring in the grade of Colonel.” [Mannix Law Firm, Attorneys, accessed [11/7/23](#)]

2024 Personal Financial Disclosure: DeSpain’s Sole Source Of Earned Income Was From Kevin Mannix’s Law Firm. [U.S. House Clerk, Monique DeSpain 2024 Personal Financial Disclosure, filed [5/2/24](#)]

SCHEDULE C: EARNED INCOME

Source	Type	Amount Current Year to Filing	Amount Preceding Year
Law Firm of Kevin Mannix	income from my own work/salary	\$40,000.00	\$105,500.00

[U.S. House Clerk, Monique DeSpain 2024 Personal Financial Disclosure, filed [5/2/24](#)]

Kevin Mannix Was A Career Politician Who Ran For Election 14 Times And Served In Oregon Politics Off And On For 35 Years

2023: Kevin Mannix Was Elected And Serves As A State Representative In Oregon. [Oregon State Legislature, Representative Kevin Mannix, accessed [11/7/23](#)]

1989-2001: Mannix Was In The Oregon State Legislature. [Kevin Mannix, Resume, accessed [11/7/23](#)]



[Kevin Mannix, Resume, accessed [11/7/23](#)]

1996 And 2000: Mannix Ran For Oregon Attorney General But Lost Both Elections. [Ballotpedia, Kevin Mannix, accessed [11/8/23](#)]

2002 And 2006: Mannix Ran For Oregon Governor But Lost Both Elections. [Ballotpedia, Kevin Mannix, accessed [11/8/23](#)]

2008: Mannix Ran For The U.S. House Of Representatives In OR-06, But Lost In The Primary. [Ballotpedia, Kevin Mannix, accessed [11/8/23](#)]

2024: Kevin Mannix Was Running For Election For The 14th Time In Oregon. [Ballotpedia, Kevin Mannix, accessed [11/8/23](#); [Kevin Mannix, Resume, accessed [11/7/23](#)]

Mannix Had “A Reputation For Questionable Campaign-Finance Reporting And Fundraising” And Was “The Subject Of Multiple Elections Complaints And Media Investigations”

Statesman Journal: “Mannix Has A Reputation For Questionable Campaign-Finance Reporting And Fundraising, The Subject Of Multiple Elections Complaints And Media Investigations.” Mannix has a reputation for questionable campaign-finance reporting and fundraising, the subject of multiple elections complaints and media investigations that have marred his image. Quirky Nevada conservative Loren Parks has been a financial lifeline for Mannix, supplying more than half of Mannix's early cash donations in the 2006 governor's race. Some religious conservatives are uneasy about Parks, who has boasted of sexual exploits through a form of therapy he provides.” [Statesman Journal, 4/23/06]

1996-2008: Mannix Drew Scrutiny For Over \$1 Million In Questionable Transfers Between Himself, His Campaign, His Political Action Committees, And His Law Firm

1996-2006: Political Committees And Foundations Controlled By Mannix Paid \$838,000 To His Law Firms, Often Times With The Money Moving Several Times In One Day

1996-2006: Political Committees And Foundations Controlled By Mannix Paid \$838,000 To His Law Firms, Often Times With The Money Moving Several Times In One Day. “Since 1996, political committees or foundations controlled by Mannix have paid \$838,000 to his law firm, other businesses or personal accounts. On multiple occasions, money moved several times --from donor, to campaign or foundation, then into one of Mannix's private enterprises --all in a single day.” [The Oregonian, 4/9/06]

- **Mannix Explained The Payments As “A Modest Means Of Defraying The Personal Costs Of His Community Service.”** “Mannix explained payments to his law firm --\$690,646 over 10 years --as a modest means of defraying the personal costs of his community service. Mannix, whose wife works and who has two children in college, said he has struggled at times to find a balance between demands of his business and political life.” [The Oregonian, 4/9/06]

1998-2002: Mannix Funneled Over \$80,000 From His Campaign And Two Political Action Committees To His Law Firm

1998-2002: Mannix Drew Scrutiny For Funneling Over \$80,000 From His Campaign And Political Action Committees To His Law Firm. “Mannix's two political action committees and his campaign also have done business with his law firm. Mannix formed the PACs, called Justice For All II and Workers' Compensation Progress, in 1997 and 2000, respectively. He said he decides how the PACs spend money. He has paid at least \$82,900 since 1998 to his law firm and PSA Services to perform services for the committees, both of which have promoted his campaigns and lobbied the Legislature. The PACs also were involved in an unusual series of transactions with Mannix's campaign committee Sept. 7. On that day, three companies connected to prominent Portland businessman Robert Randall, who died later that fall, gave \$50,000 in donations to Mannix's two political action committees. Within hours, Mannix moved the money to his gubernatorial campaign.” [The Oregonian, 8/14/02]

2001-2002: Mannix Personally Collected \$24,200 From His Campaign For Rent

2001-2002: Mannix Personally Collected \$24,200 From His Campaign For Rent. “In the governor's race, Mannix personally collected \$24,200 in rent from the campaign between August 2001 and May 29 of this year. Mannix owns the complex of offices on State Street that house both his campaign and law firm. Mannix said he keeps rental charges to his campaign slightly below market value to avoid accusations he is ‘profiteering’ from his political activities, but the practice is unusual for campaigns.” [The Oregonian, 8/14/02]

2002: Mannix’s Law Firm Loaned \$183,300 To His Campaign To Purchase Ads

2002: Mannix’s Law Firm Loaned \$183,300 To His Campaign To Purchase Ads. “As the May 21 Republican primary drew near, the Mannix law firm provided his campaign with a series of loans that helped Mannix buy ads in his heated race against Roberts and Saxton. His campaign committee ended up owing the law firm \$183,300, according to a campaign disclosure report filed in June. Mannix said the money basically came out of his own finances but that he wanted to move the money through his law firm for ‘personal reasons.’ At the same time, money also has flowed from the Mannix campaign to the law firm. In his 2000 race for attorney general, the law firm charged the campaign \$10,000 for rent and, among other things, \$5,000 for legal services.” [The Oregonian, 8/14/02]

2002: Mannix Used At Least \$327,000 From Foundations Funded By A Campaign Donor To Fund His Law Firm

HEADLINE: “Foundations Directed By Mannix Prove Boon To His Law Firm.” [The Oregonian, 8/14/02]

- **Mannix Opened Two Foundations Which Steered Hundreds Of Thousands Of Dollars To Mannix’s Law Firm.** “Four years ago, Oregon lawmakers began receiving a flurry of reports on crime and the courts from two nonprofit foundations they'd never heard of before. But the reports competing for space in their crowded in-boxes did carry a familiar name: Kevin Mannix, now the Republican nominee for governor. What the lawmakers probably didn't know, however, was that the reports from the Criminal Justice and Civil Justice foundations were also a good source of business for Mannix's Salem law firm. The two foundations, which Mannix largely directs, have steered at least \$327,000 in work to his law firm and an associated business. And the foundations have been largely funded with tax-deductible contributions from a separate foundation controlled by Aloha businessman Loren Parks -- who also has been Mannix's largest single political donor since 1998.” [The Oregonian, 8/14/02]
- **2001: Campaign Donor Loren Parks Contributed More Than 70% Of The Foundations’ Donations.** “Parks, the Aloha businessman who has been the state's largest single contributor to political causes in the past

decade, used his own foundation to contribute \$361,800 to the two Mannix foundations, according to tax returns filed by the Parks Foundation. That was more than 70 percent of the nearly \$500,000 combined the two Mannix foundations reported raising by the end of 2001.” [The Oregonian, 8/14/02]

The Foundations Raised Alarms For Giving Parks An Additional Avenue To Access Mannix, Which A Campaign Finance Expert Called “Another Twist” In Politicians Using Tax-Exempt Foundations Funded By Their Political Donors. “Tax and charity experts, however, say the unusual way he has mixed his business and the two tax-exempt nonprofits could raise legal and ethical issues. And a national campaign-finance expert says the arrangement gives Parks another avenue of access to a potential governor. Mannix’s foundations appear to be another twist in the increasing use of tax-exempt foundations by politicians who fund them with money from their regular political donors.” [The Oregonian, 8/14/02]

2002-2003: Even When Mannix’s Campaign Was Nearly \$700,000 In Debt, He Used The Campaign To Pay His Law Firm And Himself Personally

2002-2003: Even When Mannix’s Campaign Was Nearly \$700,000 In Debt, He Used The Campaign To Pay His Law Firm And Himself Personally. “Despite chronic campaign debt, records show Mannix found ways to get money to himself and his law firm. After his failed bid for governor in 2002, Mannix’s campaign owed \$690,626 for loans and other bills. Several businesses that provided services to the campaign had gone unpaid for a year. Mannix offered a deal to 11 firms: Cut their bills, and the rest would be paid in full. Otherwise, small monthly payments would ensue. Seven firms agreed to the arrangement, giving up as much as \$10,000 apiece. Still, the campaign paid \$27,000 to Mannix personally for rent and personal campaign expenses in 2003. It paid \$8,700 to his law firm and \$6,300 for expenses related to an office building owned by Mannix and used by the campaign.” [The Oregonian, 4/9/06]

2008: Mannix “Abruptly” Paid Off Hundreds Of Thousands Of Dollars In Campaign Debt With Loans From His Law Firm Without Disclosing Where The Money Came From

2008: Mannix “Abruptly” Paid Off Hundreds Of Thousands Of Dollars In Campaign Debt With Loans From His Law Firm, A Move That Was “Neither Aboveboard Nor Wise.” “The veteran Oregon politician, now running for Congress as a Republican, has handed his opponents a juicy issue for the upcoming primary campaign. He did it by abruptly paying off hundreds of thousands of dollars in long-standing campaign debts with loans from his Salem law firm. Where did the money come from? Mannix declines to say, citing client confidentiality. His move may be legal, but it is neither aboveboard nor wise. His chief opponent in the May primary, Mike Erickson, a self-financed Lake Oswego businessman, has already signaled he may make an issue of the way Mannix operates.” [The Oregonian, 3/23/08]

- **Mannix Would Not Disclose Where He Got The Money To Pay Off Campaign Debt From.** “The veteran Oregon politician, now running for Congress as a Republican, has handed his opponents a juicy issue for the upcoming primary campaign. He did it by abruptly paying off hundreds of thousands of dollars in long-standing campaign debts with loans from his Salem law firm. Where did the money come from? Mannix declines to say, citing client confidentiality. His move may be legal, but it is neither aboveboard nor wise. His chief opponent in the May primary, Mike Erickson, a self-financed Lake Oswego businessman, has already signaled he may make an issue of the way Mannix operates.” [The Oregonian, 3/23/08]

Mannix Told One Of His Campaign Staffers “Not To Worry” When Mannix’s Campaign Paid A Firm Mannix Owned Nearly \$84,000

Mannix Told One Of His Campaign Staffers “Not To Worry” When Mannix’s Campaign Paid A Firm Mannix Owned Nearly \$84,000. “Debra Gilmour paused when she saw that the campaign committee she ran for Mannix was supposed to cut a check to something called PSA Services Inc. It was six years ago, and Mannix was

deep into an expensive, head-to-head fight with Democrat Hardy Myers to become Oregon attorney general. Gilmour knew every penny counted. 'I asked what benefit the campaign was getting from this expense,' Gilmour recalled. 'I was told not to worry about it.' PSA Services, it turned out, is one of two firms owned by Mannix that together were paid nearly \$84,000 by political committees or foundations Mannix controlled, The Oregonian found. Mannix also received \$63,083 in direct payments in addition to amounts paid to his law firm." [The Oregonian, 4/9/06]

1996: Mannix Faced An Ethics Complaint For Pushing A Bill That Weakened Workers' Compensation Coverage While He Had Five Pending Cases As An Employer-Side Workers' Compensation Lawyer

Mannix Pushed Legislation That Made It Harder For Workers To Win Injury Claims. "As a lawyer, Mannix created a niche representing the employer's side in workers' compensation claims. As a lawmaker, he pushed legislation that benefited employers and made it harder for workers to win injury claims." [Statesman Journal, 12/13/05]

As A Workers' Compensation Attorney, The Bill "Directly Helped Mannix In At Least Five Cases That Were Pending Before The State Workers' Compensation Board." "At the heart of the complaints is Senate Bill 369, a complex measure that made dozens of changes in the state workers' compensation system. Mannix, who in his private law practice represents many insurance companies and employers in workers' compensation disputes, helped write the bill and steer it through the session. Wren says Mannix should have declared a conflict of interest because the bill made changes that directly helped Mannix in at least five cases that were pending before the state Workers' Compensation Board." [The Oregonian, 5/16/96]

Three Injured Workers Brought An Ethics Complaint Against Mannix For Failing To Disclose His Conflict Of Interest. "Three injured workers have accused attorney general candidate Kevin Mannix of an ethics violation, saying he failed to disclose that a bill he helped write in the 1995 Legislature aided his clients." [The Oregonian, 5/16/96]

The Oregon Government Standards And Practices Commission Later Dropped The Complaint On The Grounds Of It Being "Ambiguous." "A state panel has dropped a charge that Rep. Kevin Mannix, D-Salem, violated an ethics law by not adequately disclosing a conflict of interest when dealing with a workers' compensation bill. Mannix is a lawyer who has represented employers in workers' compensation cases and was a key figure in passing the workers' compensation overhaul measure in the 1995 Legislature. The Government Standards and Practices Commission on Wednesday voted to dismiss the charge on the grounds it was ambiguous. The complaint, filed by lawyers who had opposed him in workers' compensation cases, alleged Mannix did not declare a potential conflict of interest when the House voted on the bill." [The Oregonian, 6/28/96]

2000: Mannix Settled A Wrongful Termination Lawsuit After He Fired An Employee Who Accused Him Of Illegally Diverting Money From His Law Firm To His Attorney General Campaign

2000: Mannix Paid \$35,000 To Settle A Wrongful Termination Lawsuit After He Fired An Employee Who Accused Him Of Illegally Diverting Law Firm Money To His Attorney General Campaign. "Last month, Mannix settled another lawsuit filed against him by a former shareholder and associate of his firm, Conrad E. Yunker. The Salem attorney claimed Mannix wrongfully fired him in 1996 after Yunker accused Mannix of illegally diverting the firm's finances to bankroll his attorney general campaign, including a \$5,000 contribution paid by a 'wealthy political supporter' for a report. Mannix, who paid \$35,000 to settle the lawsuit, says he found it odd that Yunker never asked the secretary of state's office to investigate the alleged elections violations. But in an interview, Yunker said he plans to refer matters raised in his lawsuit to the Oregon State Bar." [The Oregonian, 9/11/00]

2002: Mannix Appeared To Accept \$175,000 In Campaign Contributions Under False Names, Leading To An Election Law Complaint That Exposed Loopholes In Oregon Campaign Finance Law**2002: Mannix Appeared To Accept \$175,000 In Campaign Contributions Under False Names, Leading To An Election Law Complaint**

2002: Loren Parks Donated \$125,000 To The Oregon Republican Party Who Then Donated \$125,000 To Mannix's Campaign, Raising Questions Of A Campaign Contribution Under A False Name. "Eight days before voting ended in the 2002 Oregon governor's race, Kevin Mannix landed a big contribution --\$125,000 from the state Republican Party, according to disclosure reports filed by Mannix's campaign. The reports don't tell the whole story. Earlier that day, Mannix now says, he received a \$125,000 check to the party from Aloha businessman Loren Parks, whose previous big donations to Mannix had stirred controversy. Mannix took the check to the state GOP, where he asked for a contribution from the party and waited for a \$125,000 check, the party's then-executive director said. It's illegal to accept money under a false name in Oregon, which has no limits on political contributions. But whether Mannix did anything improper is debatable. State investigators examined a similar Mannix episode in 2002 but cleared him of accusations that he disguised the source of \$50,000 in contributions by moving them through other political committees." [The Oregonian, 4/9/06]

2002: An Election Law Complaint Accused Mannix Of Using His PACs To Funnel \$50,000 In Contributions From A Portland Businessman Into His Campaign, Raising Questions About If The Campaign Accepted Contributions In A False Name. "The gubernatorial campaign of Libertarian Tom Cox filed an election-law complaint Wednesday against Republican Kevin Mannix about the way Mannix handled and reported \$50,000 in contributions last fall. Cox's campaign strategist, Richard Burke, requested an investigation by the state Elections Division as a result of an Aug. 14 article in The Oregonian about Mannix's finances. Jeff Mapes - The Oregonian Two political action committees controlled by Mannix received \$50,000 in contributions on Sept. 7 from three companies connected to Robert Randall, a now-deceased Portland businessman. On the same day, the money was moved from the political action committees to Mannix's gubernatorial campaign. State law prohibits hiding the identity of contributors, but Mannix said everything he did was legal because he properly reported all the transactions on disclosure forms both for the political action committee and for his gubernatorial campaign. Amy Casterline, Mannix's campaign manager, said the complaint had no merit and was an attempt by Cox to get publicity. Burke's complaint said the transactions raise 'a serious question about whether the Mannix campaign may have been accepting contributions in a false name.' Fred Neal, a state elections manager, said he had received the complaint letter from Burke but could not comment on it until the Elections Division was finished handling the complaint." [The Oregonian, 8/29/02]

- **The PACs Were Listed As Mannix's Campaign Donors, Not The Businessman Who Donated The Money That Was Funneled To Mannix's Campaign.** "Mannix's campaign received \$50,000 in one day from three businesses owned by the late Robert Randall, a Portland developer. Randall's businesses originally gave the money to two political action committees controlled by Mannix, which then funneled it to Mannix's campaign. That meant on Mannix's campaign disclosure forms, the PACs were listed as the donors, not Randall." [The Oregonian, 12/4/03]

The Complaint Against Mannix Was Dismissed, But The Secretary Of State Said The Situation Exposed "Loopholes" In Oregon Campaign Finance Law That He Vowed To Fix

Oregon Dismissed The Complaint Against Mannix. "His comments coincided with the release of a state-commissioned investigation that dismissed a complaint about contributions funneled through various political action committees to the campaign of Kevin Mannix of Salem, the Republican nominee for governor last year." [Statesman Journal, 12/4/03]

The Complaint Exposed Some “Loopholes” In Oregon Campaign Finance Laws That Decreased Transparency, Which The Secretary Of State Vowed To Work To Close. “The state has exonerated Republican leader Kevin Mannix of campaign violations, but Secretary of State Bill Bradbury said Wednesday that the case exposed loopholes he will try to help close by forming a panel to recommend changes to the 2005 Legislature. ‘We’ve identified some problems that make it impossible for citizens to follow the money in a timely manner,’ Bradbury said.” [The Oregonian, 12/4/03]

2005: Mannix Faced An Oregon Elections Inquiry For Sixteen Deficiencies In His Campaign Finance Report, Including Seemingly Misreporting A \$45,000 Loan From Himself To His Campaign

2005: Oregon Elections Officials Opened An Inquiry Into Mannix For Sixteen Deficiencies In His Campaign Finance Report, Including Citing A \$45,000 From Himself To His Campaign That Was Later Reported As A Direct Contribution Rather Than A Loan. “State elections officials have opened an inquiry into Republican governor candidate Kevin Mannix’s campaign-finance reports in response to an elections complaint filed by injured-worker advocate Ernie Delmazzo. Delmazzo filed a complaint late Thursday with the Elections Division, citing 16 alleged ‘deficiencies’ in Mannix’s September campaign-finance report. Delmazzo asked state elections regulators to conduct an audit of Mannix’s campaign-finance reports. The most serious allegation is that Mannix filed one report citing a \$45,000 loan from himself to his campaign, then filed another report listing the money not as a loan but as a direct contribution. At least four other alleged problems stem from money or in-kind services contributed by Mannix’s Salem law firm to his campaign.” [Statesman Journal, 12/13/05]

2015: Mannix Was At The Center Of An Oregon Department Of Justice Ethics Investigation After He Allegedly Routed Donations To His Campaign And Organizations Through A Nonprofit Where He Provided Legal Services

The Oregon Department Of Justice Filed A State Bar Complaint Against Mannix, Charging That He Violated Ethics Rules By Representing A Charity That Gave His Campaign And Businesses \$1.1 Million

The Oregon Department Of Justice Filed A Bar Complaint Against Mannix For Violating Ethics Rules By Representing A Veterans Charity That Gave His Campaign And Businesses \$1.1 Million. “The Oregon Department of Justice has filed an unusual state bar complaint against prominent Republican activist Kevin Mannix, charging that the lawyer violated ethics rules when he represented a veterans charity that funneled \$1.1 million to his political and business activities.” [Oregon Live, [7/15/15](#)]

The Oregon War Veterans Association Paid \$505,000 To A “For-Profit LLC ‘Think Tank’” That Mannix Was The Only Member Of. “As a result, OWVA paid various for-profit and nonprofit entities owned or controlled by Mr. Mannix approximately \$1.1 million (including \$90,000 for legal services and approximately \$505,000 to a for-profit LLC ‘think tank’ of which Mr. Mannix is and has been the only member).” [Oregon Department of Justice, [7/1/15](#)]

Mannix’s Organization Received “Substantial Payments” From The Oregon War Veterans Association. “OWVA’s records showed that the Mannix organizations had received substantial payments from OWVA.” [Oregon Department of Justice, [7/1/15](#)]

Mannix Received A \$13,800 Rolex Watch Paid For By The Oregon War Veterans Association. “As appreciation for his fundraising help, Warnock in January of 2009 presented Mannix with a \$13,800 Rolex paid for by the charity.” [Oregon Live, [7/15/15](#)]

Mannix's Relationship With The Oregon War Veterans Association Likely Violated Laws Restricting Attorneys From Engaging In Business Transactions With Clients

Mannix's Relationship With The Oregon War Veterans Association Likely Violated Oregon Laws Restricting Attorneys From Engaging In Business Transactions With Clients. "RPC 1.8(a) and 1.8(c) restrict attorneys from engaging in business transactions or soliciting gifts from clients, and it appears that Mr. Mannix may have violated those rules. Other requirements of the RPC are also implicated, including representing a client while conflicted by personal interests without the client's informed written consent in violation of RPC 1.7(a)(2); failing to provide a client with sufficient information about the scope of representation in violation of RPC 1.4; and charging excessive fees in violation of RPC 1.5. Although some of these matters are perhaps more typically reported by affected clients, the Attorney General is responsible for overseeing the activities of nonprofit organizations in Oregon and assuring that their assets are not used inappropriately." [Oregon Department of Justice, [7/1/15](#)]

The Donations To Mannix's Organization Did Not Appear To Be In Exchange For Professional Services. "Many of the payments at issue do not appear to be in exchange for professional services. For example, Mr. Mannix's for-profit 'think tank,' Oregon Excellence LLC, received approximately \$505,000 in payments from OWVA while Mr. Mannix was OWVA's attorney. According to Mr. Mannix, Oregon Excellence provided no services, produced no work product, and did no work specifically directed by OWVA in exchange for the payments." [Oregon Department of Justice, [7/1/15](#)]

Mannix Met With A Donor Who Contributed To The Oregon War Veterans Association Then Made Substantial Donations To Mannix

Mannix Met With A Donor Who Made Contributions To The Oregon War Veterans Association, Who In Turn Made Substantial Donations To Mannix. "In September 2008, Mr. Mannix began raising more funds for OWVA, primarily by seeking donations from a single donor and from corporate entities related to that donor who had previously provided financial support to campaigns and organizations affiliated with Mr. Mannix. In all, the donor and related entities paid approximately \$2 million to OWVA, which represented the vast majority of OWVA's revenues. Those donations were quickly expended, with little spent on charitable assistance to war veterans. Instead, most of the funds were spent on payments to the Mannix organizations, or to Mr. Warnock for what Mr. Warnock claimed was compensation for services provided to OWVA. The Mannix organizations received \$1.1 million from OWVA during the time in question; Mr. Warnock and related entities received over \$700,000. An analysis of OWVA's bank records, combined with records produced by Mr. Mannix, reveals a general pattern in OWVA's income and expenses. Mr. Mannix would meet or otherwise communicate with the donor, and the donor would make a substantial donation to OWVA. Once the donation was received, it would be followed by substantial payments to the Mannix organizations and to Mr. Warnock or entities Mr. Warnock controlled, including LNP Consultants. That pattern continued until March 2010, when it appears the donor decided to terminate further support." [Oregon Department of Justice, [7/1/15](#)]

- **Gregory Warnock Was The Oregon War Veterans Association Executive Director And Board President.** "More specifically, this report is based on the documents produced in discovery by OWVA, Mr. Mannix, and other sources; the depositions of OWVA directors (including OWVA's Executive Director and board President Gregory Warnock); and the deposition of Mr. Mannix." [Oregon Department of Justice, [7/1/15](#)]

Some Funds Were Paid To Mannix's Campaign And Used To Pay Off Campaign Debt Owed To Mannix's Law Firm

Some Of The Funds Were Paid To Mannix's Campaign Committee Then Used To Pay Loans The Campaign Owed To Mannix's Law Firm. "Similarly, in 2008 and 2009, OWVA paid a total of \$110,000 to Citizens for Mannix, Mr. Mannix's campaign committee for his 2006 bid for the Republican gubernatorial nomination. Those

funds were immediately transferred to Mr. Mannix's law firm to pay down loans his law firm had made to finance that campaign." [Oregon Department of Justice, [7/1/15](#)]

The Complaint Was Dismissed

The State Professional Responsibility Board Dismissed The Department Of Justice Complaint. "In 2018, the State Professional Responsibility Board dismissed a complaint made against Mannix by an Oregon Department of Justice lawyer concerning payments from the Oregon War Veterans Association, which had been investigated by the DOJ. The board found Mannix did not violate the rules of professional conduct for a lawyer." [Statesman Journal, [10/14/22](#)]

DeSpain Mentor Kevin Mannix's Ally And Largest Campaign Donor Attracted Negative Press For Improper Spending, Sexual Misconduct, And Inappropriate Comments About Women And Sex

DeSpain Worked With Kevin Mannix And Called Him "Just Delightful"

DeSpain Elevated Her Work With Mannix As The Reason She Is Running For Office And Called Mannix "Just Delightful." HOST: "Why are you running?" DESPAIN: "Why am I running? You know, I've thought a lot about this. I've been working the last few years since I retired at the end of 2019 I've been working with Kevin Mannix. You probably know him, just delightful, and I joined his fight on so many public safety issues that we have. He's been doing it his whole career." [Oregon Roundup Podcast, 7:01, [2/1/24](#)] (AUDIO)

Loren Parks Was Mannix's "Ally" And Largest Campaign Donor

Parks Was Mannix's "Ally"

Parks Said He And Mannix Were "Old Allies." "Although Parks has said that he and Mannix don't always see eye to eye, they have remained old allies over the past several decades." [Columbia Community Connection, [1/5/21](#)]

Parks Was Mannix's Biggest Campaign Donor, Giving Mannix Over \$4 Million In 20 Years

During His Gubernatorial Race, Mannix Was The Biggest Beneficiary Of Parks' Donations. "To Republicans who are opposed to the gubernatorial campaign of Kevin Mannix, the biggest beneficiary of his largesse, Parks is a daffy old man who is easily manipulated by Mannix's glibness." [Willamette Week, [4/18/06](#)]

1990-2006: Parks Donated \$1.4 Million To Mannix's Campaigns, Equal To Over 14.1% Of Mannix's Total Money Raised Over That Time Period. "According to the most recent filing with the secretary of state's office, Parks has directly contributed \$381,000 to Mannix for the forthcoming primary election—so far. But this is only a fraction of the money Parks has sent Mannix's way over the past decade. Of the total of \$10.1 million in direct political contributions received since 1990 by Mannix's two main political committees, Citizens for Mannix and Justice for All, slightly over 14.1 percent, or \$1.4 million, came from just one person, Loren Parks." [Willamette Week, [4/18/06](#)]

As Of 2010, Parks Donated More Than \$4 Million To Mannix-Related Campaigns. "Mannix has relied on Parks for cash since 1994 for failed races for governor, attorney general and Congress. Common Cause Oregon, a public interest group, calculated in a report produced last fall that Parks has put more than \$4 million into Mannix-related campaigns, including the passage of mandatory-minimum sentencing Measure 11, and groups through 2008." [The Oregonian, 9/1/10]

Parks Was Sued For Improper Spending After His Foundation Funded \$200,000 In Ads Supporting A Bill That Mannix Cosponsored And Paying An Additional \$22,500 Directly To Mannix

Parks Was Sued For Improper Spending After His Foundation Funded \$200,000 In Ads Supporting A Bill That Mannix Cosponsored And Paying An Additional \$22,500 Directly To Mannix. “Last month, Myers’ office sued the foundation, run by conservative Aloha businessman Loren Parks. The lawsuit claims Parks used his private foundation to illegally finance political causes. Among its allegedly improper spending: \$200,000 for ads supporting a 1998 initiative to increase penalties for property crimes, which was co-sponsored by Mannix, and \$22,500 that was paid directly to Mannix in 1997. Parks’ attorney accused Myers of political intimidation. But Myers says he removed himself from decision-making in the case once he became aware that Mannix was involved and that one Parks-financed ad attacked him directly.” [The Oregonian, 9/18/00]

- **Parks Was Sued By The State Of Oregon.** “Mannix also questioned the state’s decision to sue the foundation of Loren Parks of Aloha, a manufacturer of medical equipment who is Oregon’s largest individual political donor, mostly to conservative causes. Given Oregon’s broad free-expression guarantee, Mannix said, ‘I would be very careful about going after any foundation because it disseminates information.’ Of the half-million dollars that the state alleges was spent illegally, Mannix received \$22,500 from Parks said to be in connection with legal work for the anti-crime ballot measures. None of the recipients, including Mannix, is accused of wrongdoing.” [Statesman Journal, 9/22/00]

Parks Attracted Negative Press For Sexual Misconduct And Inappropriate Statements About Women And Sex

Parks Was Accused Of Sexual Misconduct Twice, By A Former Employee And Someone Who Was “Mentally Impaired.” “Parks has also settled out of court two civil lawsuits accusing him of sexual misconduct. One involved a mentally impaired woman whom Parks slept with after she approached him about his therapy. The other settlement resolved a case filed by a former employee who accused Parks of sending her extremely lewd emails and ‘trying to brainwash her into being his sexual and travel companion.’” [Mother Jones, [5/8/14](#)]

Parks Was A Sex Hypnotist Who Made Comments Saying Women Grow Fat So They Are Not Tempted To Cheat On Their Husbands And Rape And Incest Victims Can Only Heal If They Don’t Get “Mileage” Out Of Their Stories. “A prolific contributor to state and federal candidates in Oregon, Parks is frequently described as the largest political donor in the state’s history. He made his fortune selling medical equipment but gained notoriety in the past few years for starring in a YouTube series on treating sexual afflictions through hypnosis. In one of his dozens of video, Parks says some women grow fat so they won’t be tempted to cheat on their husbands. In another, he claims he can help heal the trauma of rape and incest victims, but not ‘if you’re getting mileage out of it, if you’re getting status, satisfaction from telling your story again and again.’ In that video, Parks sounds a buzzer and shouts ‘Disconnect! Disconnect!’ over and over.” [Mother Jones, [5/8/14](#)]

Parks Claimed To Heal A Woman With Multiple Sclerosis With His Sex Therapies, Bragged About Hypnotizing Women Into Becoming “Sex Machines.” “On his website, Parks notes, ‘I am not a doctor.’ Yet he says he used his methods to relieve a woman of multiple sclerosis symptoms, adding, ‘this woman probably got her MS because she had left her husband, gone off with another man.’ On a now-defunct personal website, he once bragged that he could hypnotize women into becoming ‘sex machines.’” [Mother Jones, [5/8/14](#)]

DeSpain Agreed With The Supreme Court's Dobbs Decision And Said She Would Not Support Efforts To Codify Roe V. Wade Federally

DeSpain Said She “Believe[d] And Concur[red] With The Supreme Court” On Dobbs, Saying “I Fully Support The Court’s Decision.” HOST: “Let’s talk a little bit about abortion because on the national scale, it’s obviously been an issue that’s influenced elections. For Oregonians, they consistently say it’s--since Roe v. Wade was overturned-- one of the most important issues for them. They’ve repeatedly come out in support of legalizing abortion within the state of Oregon. But if a federal ban were to come before you as a Congresswoman, a federal Congresswoman, how would you vote on that?” DESPAIN: “I believe that the regulation of abortion is best left to the states. I believe and concur with the Supreme Court that that should be left to the state. I believe in life and I believe in the U.S. Constitution, and there’s nothing in the Constitution that supports the federal government should get involved in this topic. And so I fully support the Court’s decision that it is left to the people who can elect their state representatives and express themselves that way as they have in Oregon it’s very clear. And I will do nothing to return the regulation of abortion to the federal government, including the funding of abortion by the government.” [KMTR, 10:58, [4/18/24](#)] (VIDEO)

DeSpain Agreed With The Supreme Court Ruling On Dobbs And Said She Would Not Support A Nationwide Abortion Ban Or Efforts To Codify Roe Federally. “She said she agreed with the Supreme Court’s ruling in Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization that abortion should be regulated by states, saying she wouldn’t support a nationwide abortion ban or efforts to codify Roe v. Wade federally. ‘Oregonians have made perfectly clear that they’re pro choice, and the law is fixed on that,’ DeSpain said. ‘It can be modified through the state legislature, which is the proper place for that, and as a congresswoman for Oregon, I will not support the return of the abortion issue to the federal government.’” [Oregon Capital Chronicle, [11/17/23](#)]

DeSpain Did Not Plan To Change Reproductive Health Laws. “DeSpain told the Register-Guard she would not aim to change reproductive health laws. ‘What I am going to Congress to change is the dysfunctional culture of career politicians not working for us. ... That is what I am focused on.’” [The Register Guard, [4/29/24](#)]

Criminal Justice Reform

DeSpain Argued For Cutting Back On The Services Provided To Those Accused Of A Crime In Oregon

DeSpain Argued For Cutting Back On The Services Provided To Those Accused Of A Crime In Oregon. HOST: “The federal Constitution guarantees counsel if you’re accused of a crime. Oregon goes far beyond that. Would it make sense for Oregon to cut back and say ‘we’re only going to deliver the counsel that is required by the federal Constitution’ and not all this other nonsense including post-conviction relief and things like that that are not required by the Constitution. You could solve the money problem tomorrow, couldn’t you?” DESPAIN: “Absolutely, that has been my recommendation and Kevin Mannix’s recommendation to those in Oregon who continue to struggle with what seems to be a very resolvable problem.” [The Lars Larson Show, Soundcloud, 7:38, [11/16/23](#)] (AUDIO)

H.J.R. 29, A Resolution Proposing A Constitutional Amendment Making It Harder To Declare Someone Not Guilty, Was Introduced In The Oregon State House At DeSpain’s Request

March 15, 2023: The Oregon State House Introduced H.J.R. 29 At DeSpain’s Request. [Oregon Legislature, [3/15/23](#)]



[Oregon Legislature, [3/15/23](#)]

H.J.R. 29 Proposed A Constitutional Amendment To Require Not Guilty Criminal Jury Verdicts In Circuit Court To Be Unanimous. “Proposes amendment to Oregon Constitution to require not guilty criminal jury verdicts in circuit court to be unanimous.” [Oregon Legislature, H.J.R. 29 Text, [3/15/23](#)]

- **Oregon Law Required Only First Degree Murder Verdicts To Have Unanimous Consensus.** “However, that in the circuit court [ten members of the jury may render a verdict of guilty or not guilty, save and except a verdict of guilty of first degree murder, which] shall be found only by a unanimous verdict, and not otherwise.” [Oregon Legislature, H.J.R. 29 Text, [3/15/23](#)]

DeSpain Filed An Unsuccessful Lawsuit Against The Oregon Governor For Freeing Incarcerated People During The Pandemic

DeSpain Filed A Lawsuit Against The Oregon Governor Accusing Her Of Unlawfully Extending Her Clemency Powers

A Lawsuit Against Oregon Governor Kate Brown Was Filed Accusing Her Of Unlawfully Freeing Nearly 1,000 Incarcerated People. “Two Oregon district attorneys and the relatives of three homicide victims have filed a lawsuit accusing Gov. Kate Brown of unlawfully freeing nearly 1,000 incarcerated people. The lawsuit was filed Wednesday in Marion County Circuit Court, The Oregonian/OregonLive reported. District attorneys Patricia Perlow of Lane County and Doug Marteeny of Linn County are among the parties alleging Brown has violated clemency procedures that require victim notification. The lawsuit also asks a judge to stop the Democratic governor from allowing those convicted of crimes as minors from applying for commutation.” [Associated Press, [1/20/22](#)]

- **DeSpain Filed The Case With Common Sense For Oregon As Part Of Her Role At The Kevin Mannix Law Firm.** “‘We are asking that the court compel the governor to follow the laws that are already in place,’ said Monique DeSpain, a lawyer for the Kevin L. Mannix Salem-based law firm, which filed the case with Common Sense for Oregon on behalf of Perlow, Marteeny and the homicide victims’ relatives.” [Associated Press, [1/20/22](#)]

The Lawsuit Argued That Brown Unlawfully Extended Her Clemency Powers And Refused To Involve Victims In The Process. “Additionally, the lawsuit argues Brown: Has broad clemency powers subject to regulation and has ‘abandon all clemency process and procedure as abandoned by law’ Unlawfully extended her clemency powers because some of the inmates won’t be eligible until after she leaves office. Brown already has announced she isn’t running for governor again. ‘Refused to involve victims’ in the process as required by law Made Senate Bill 1008 retroactive when she doesn’t have authority to do so Has illustrated her ‘willingness to act outside the restrictions on her clemency power.’” [Statesman Journal, 1/20/22]

Brown Commuted Sentences For 953 People Due To COVID-19

Brown Commuted Sentences For 912 People Who Were Deemed To Have Increased Risk Of Contracting COVID, Had Completed At Least Half Their Sentences, And Weren’t Serving Time For Crimes Against

People. “Brown commuted the sentences of 912 people in custody who were deemed at heightened risk of contracting COVID-19, according to a June 2021 letter she sent to state lawmakers. Those freed were medically vulnerable, had completed at least half their sentences and weren’t serving time for crimes against people.” [Associated Press, [1/20/22](#)]

Brown Commuted Sentences For An Additional 41 People Who Fought The Labor Day 2020 Wildfires.

“Brown also commuted the sentences of 41 people who fought the Labor Day 2020 wildfires, according to the June letter, which is cited in the lawsuit. Those released didn’t ‘present an unacceptable safety, security, or compliance risk to the community,’ the letter said.” [Associated Press, [1/20/22](#)]

The Lawsuit Claimed That Brown Ignored Victims’ Rights

Complainants Claimed That Brown Ignored Victims’ Statutory And Constitutional Rights. “The lawsuit says Brown broke rules requiring individual commutation applications and unlawfully delegated her responsibilities to state agencies. ‘This lawsuit is not personal on my part,’ Marteeny said in a statement. ‘I believe our laws put limits on (Brown’s) actions. I am working to enforce those limits.’ Perlow, in a statement, said Brown was ignoring crime victims’ statutory and constitutional rights.” [Associated Press, [1/20/22](#)]

DeSpain Claimed Brown Only Focused On “The Rights Of The Convicted Felons, Instead Of Considering The Rights Of Victims.” “Brown is only focusing on the rights of the convicted felons, instead of considering the rights of victims and input of district attorneys, Mannix Law Firm attorney Monique DeSpain told the Statesman Journal Wednesday.” [Statesman Journal, [1/20/22](#)]

The Lawsuit Was Unsuccessful As The Oregon Court Of Appeals Found Brown Lawfully Used Her Clemency Powers

The Oregon Court Of Appeals Found That Brown Lawfully Used Her Clemency Powers When Granting Commutations. “Oregon’s second-highest court found Gov. Kate Brown lawfully used her clemency powers when granting commutations that drew scorn and a legal challenge from two district attorneys and family members of crime victims. The state Court of Appeals batted down a lawsuit from Lane County District Attorney Patty Perlow, Linn County District Attorney Doug Marteeny and a handful of surviving family members that challenged Brown’s use of clemency powers for more than 70 individuals in late 2021.” [The Register-Guard, [8/11/22](#)]

The Challenge Of Brown’s Clemency Powers Was Unsuccessful. “Monique DeSpain, a lawyer who helped state Rep. Kevin Mannix, R-Salem, with his unsuccessful legal challenge of Brown’s clemency powers, said Calhoun’s early release underscores the pitfalls of granting clemency to groups of prisoners.” [Oregon Live, [7/26/23](#)]

Fighting Crime Was One Of DeSpain’s Campaign Priorities

DeSpain For Congress Priorities Page: “Fight Crime And Support Law Enforcement.” [Monique DeSpain for Congress, accessed [11/16/23](#)]

Drugs

DeSpain For Congress Priorities Page: “Secure Our Borders And Stop The Flow Of Illegal Drugs Into Our Communities.” [Monique DeSpain for Congress, accessed [11/16/23](#)]

DeSpain Faulted The Southern Border For A Rise In Fentanyl Addiction And Death. “A highlight of the public safety priority involves closing the U.S.-Mexico border, which she and Ryan Courser expressed similar views on. ‘Some of (the migrants) hate our country and would like to destroy our way of life. And they’re coming over our border. So that is my number one issue.’ DeSpain also attributed the increase in fentanyl addiction and

deaths to the border, 'fentanyl is not sprouting organically along the I-5. It's coming over the border.' DeSpain said she also supported immigration reform, but said it should not have to be tied to border security. 'The obvious major burning issue is our border and securing the border, which is a separate issue from immigration reform ... we need to reform that as well,' she said." [The Register Guard, [5/2/24](#)]

Economy

DeSpain Advocated For Government Agency Cuts And Would Not Commit To Bringing Money To Oregon Until Federal Spending Was Justified

After Being Asked Whether She Would Commit To Not Bring Money Back To Oregon Until The Federal Debt Was Resolved, DeSpain Said She Would Not Agree To Spending More Money Until The Money The Federal Government Has Already Spent Is Justified. HOST: "There are very few members of Congress over the decades who have actually said 'look, my district doesn't need anything. I'm not gonna come home, you know, with a big bunch of federal money.' But every other member of Congress, even the Republicans, typically say, they want to brag on all the federal money they've brought back from Washington, DC, even when the treasury is effectively bankrupt. So it would be kind of tough, but wouldn't it be interesting to take the position 'I'm not bringing any federal money home. We don't have more federal money. We're borrowing money and our debt is too big.' So, would it be possible to hear you say 'I'm going to promise to go back to Congress and argue against sending money back to the states?'" DESPAIN: "Certainly until government is accountable for all the money, all the tax dollars they've been spending. We've been having the same problem in Oregon as, you know, we've been fighting against this public defense crisis. You know, where's the money going? They're always asking for more, it's happening on the federal level too. So you'll hear that from me: before we spend more money, tell me what you did with the money we just gave you and have been giving you for years. And I'm not seeing results, either." [The Lars Larson Show, Soundcloud, 6:26, [11/16/23](#)] (AUDIO)

DeSpain Advocated For Government Agency Cuts. "DeSpain said she would look for these and other federal funding on programs she believes are ineffective and cut that spending. 'Name a government agency. They're wasting your money,' she said, citing the troubled implementation of pandemic rental assistance in Oregon as one example. DeSpain said she's qualified to do this work because of the investigations she undertook as a prosecutor and JAG officer." [The Register Guard, [5/2/24](#)]

DeSpain For Congress Priorities Page: "Bring Back A Prosperous Economy." [Monique DeSpain for Congress, accessed [11/16/23](#)]

Education

DeSpain Supported School Choice And Parental Rights

DeSpain: "I Support School Choice, Parental Rights, And The Superiority Of The Parent In All Aspects Of Child-Rearing." "The American family is under assault by many institutions and influences in our society, but especially by our own government. Government has no business attempting to render parents irrelevant by undermining their parental duties and concerns in service to extreme social and political agendas. Governments at all levels must end social experimentation on our kids and get back to protecting and supporting the role of parents. American families are the core of our country and must be protected and supported, not undermined and destroyed. To that end, I support school choice, parental rights, and the superiority of the parent in all aspects of child-rearing." [Monique DeSpain for Congress, Issues, accessed [6/26/24](#)]

Despain: "As Your Congresswoman, I Will Support Federal Legislation To Pass A Parents' Bill Of Rights." "As your Congresswoman, I will support federal legislation to pass a Parents' Bill of Rights to ensure today's one-size-fits-all approach to a curriculum run by education bureaucrats is replaced by one where parents have a primary

and active role in the educational development of their children. Parental rights include full transparency regarding anything to do with a person's child, guaranteed access to all curricula being taught to children, ensured access to school performance statistics, and school choice." [Monique DeSpain for Congress, Issues, accessed [6/26/24](#)]

DeSpain On Congress Funding Universities: “Cut Off The Money [...] They Need To Get It Under Control And Keep Their University Safe For All Students, And If They Just Ignore That, Then The Funding Should Stop”

DeSpain On Congress Funding Universities: “Cut Off The Money [...] They Need To Get It Under Control And Keep Their University Safe For All Students, And If They Just Ignore That, Then The Funding Should Stop.” HOST: “I want to ask you what you think Congress’ role should be in addressing this mess on American college campuses—both public and private—because I think that Congress ought to defund most of these universities. By that I mean that Congress doesn’t necessarily do the direct funding of the school, but what they do is shovel out an amazing amount of grants that are given out to universities. Even the private schools are getting literally hundreds of millions of dollars. Is there any reasoning to keep sending money to places that have become as radical and as dangerous as it appears some of these campuses have become?” DESPAIN: “No, they shouldn’t be funding them, it’s more funding of failure. I think that you follow the money, just like in our discussions of the homelessness industrial complex, these nonprofits that get so much money, same with these universities: cut off the money so they’ll pay attention when we have Congressional leadership that’s standing up. Speaker Johnson, did you hear him speaking at Columbia University to call on the leadership? That’s leadership, and making that public demand that they need to get it under control and keep their university safe for all students, and if they just ignore that, then the funding should stop.” [The Lars Larson Show, Soundcloud, 1:32, [5/2/24](#)] (AUDIO)

The Organization DeSpain Lobbied For Supported School Choice And Vouchers For Parents Of Children With Disabilities, Which Were Associated With Negative Education Outcomes

Common Sense For Oregon Advocated For School Choice And Vouchers For Parents Of Children With Disabilities

Common Sense For Oregon Advocated For “School Choice” And “Vouchers For Parents Of Children With Disabilities.” “Our state should allow school choice provide parents the ability to find the right fit for the child’s education, regardless of their address. We also support open enrollment and vouchers for parents of children with disabilities.” [Common Sense for Oregon, Current Issues, accessed [11/7/23](#)]

Common Sense For Oregon Advocated For State-Sponsored Grant Programs To Support Private School Programming. “Classroom education needs to be enhanced for the sake of our future. We can do by improving dual-credit programs, increasing access to youth sports programs, funding after-school programs, establishing more dual-language immersion schools, and providing more honors classes in high school. The state should improve grant programs to help private schools expand their capabilities, as well.” [Common Sense for Oregon, Current Issues, accessed [11/7/23](#)]

Common Sense For Oregon Foundation Hosted A Movie Night “To Start A Conversation About Why Oregon Students And Families Need School Choice And Open Enrollment.” “Come for a free movie and leave with information about local school options at a community event at the Walters Cultural Art Center celebrating National School Choice Week on Saturday, Jan. 28. [...] 'This family-friendly movie event is the perfect opportunity to start a conversation about why Oregon students and families need school choice and open enrollment,' said Donna Kreitzberg of Education Freedom for Oregon. The Miss Virginia Screening Celebration is planned by the Common Sense for Oregon Foundation in partnership with the Education Freedom for Oregon, which seeks to ensure Oregon families have the right to choose and customize their children's education.” [PR Newswire, [1/20/23](#)]

DeSpain Lobbied For Common Sense For Oregon

January 4-September 15, 2023: DeSpain Was Registered As An Oregon State Lobbyist For Common Sense For Oregon. [State of Oregon, accessed [11/7/23](#)]

School Choice And Vouchers Had Negative Outcomes, Including Reducing Funding For Public Schools, Exacerbating Segregation, And Not Supporting Students With Disabilities

Expanding School Choice Was A Top Education Priority Of Trump And Betsy DeVos. “President Trump and Education Secretary Betsy DeVos have been quite clear that expanding school choice is their top education priority.” [Washington Post, [5/3/17](#)]

Washington Post: “The Thinly Veiled Agenda Of Privatized Choice Is The Destruction Of Public Schools.” “Privatized school choice, in its various forms, has been rapidly gaining ground in many of our states. The thinly veiled agenda of privatized choice is the destruction of public schools, which Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos and her allies refer to as ‘government schools.’” [Washington Post, [5/3/17](#)]

Privatized School Choice Would Reduce Funding For Local Public Schools. “1. Privatized school choice will inevitably reduce funding for your local neighborhood public schools The ultimate goal of school choice advocates is funding portability that is sometimes called ‘backpack funding’ to increase its appeal. Taxpayer money follows the student to the public school, private school, home school or charter school of her choice. Its proponents argue that it will not hurt the children or taxpayers of the local public school, because when the student leaves, school costs will be reduced equal to the money in the backpack. [...] As charter schools and voucher programs expand, the public school system has to reduce services, enrichment programs and sports, or it has to raise local taxes, or both. This negatively impacts the community at large and has a negative effect on home values.” [Washington Post, [5/3/17](#)]

Vouchers Fail To Protect Rights Of Students, Exacerbating Segregation And Not Supporting Students With Disabilities. “Furthermore, vouchers have been shown to not support students with disabilities, they fail to protect the human and civil rights of students, and they exacerbate segregation. Vouchers were first created after the Supreme Court banned school segregation with its ruling in *Brown v Board of Education*. School districts used vouchers to enable white students to attend private schools, which could (and still can) limit admission based on race. As a result, the schools that served those white students were closed, and schools that served black students remained chronically underfunded. The pattern of discrimination continues with vouchers today. Unlike public schools, private schools can (and some do) limit their admission based on race, gender, sexual orientation, ability, and any other number of factors. Furthermore, vouchers rarely cover the full tuition, so families who were promised a better education are left footing the bill.” [National Education Association, [12/2/21](#)]

Energy

DeSpain Spoke Against A Proposed Ordinance To Prohibit Natural Gas In New Homes Three Stories Tall Or Less

DeSpain Spoke Against A Proposed Eugene Ordinance To Prohibit Natural Gas In New Homes Three Stories Tall Or Less. “Supporters and opponents of a proposal to prohibit natural gas in new homes shared their stories and opinions in the Eugene City Council public hearing Monday evening. It was an in-person public hearing to address a number of topics. But the topic that caused the most heat was the proposed ordinance to prohibit natural gas in new homes three stories tall or less. ‘Mayor and councilors, you simply do not have the support of the majority of the people who live in Eugene and the surrounding areas to ban natural gas. You are representatives of this community. You are not dictators and you do not have the authority to make decisions, which negative impact the lives of your constituents,’ said Monique Despain, lives in Ward 2, Eugene.” [KPIC, [11/22/22](#)]

DeSpain Spoke Against A Windmill Farm

DeSpain Spoke Against A Windmill Farm On The Coast Of Oregon, Calling It “Ridiculous.” HOST: “You were over on the coast. Was any mention made at the time of the Bureau of Ocean Management about the windmill farm that BOEM has said ‘yeah, let’s put it up, we’re going to put it up and thanks for your input. We’re going to ignore it, and we’re going to put it up!’ What were you hearing and what are your thoughts on it?” DESPAIN: “The only voices that are silent are the elected politicians—the two Senators and my opponent Val Hoyle. People are outraged, they’re unequivocal in ‘no we do not want that.’ And I support that position. It’s just another shiny new object. We have enough information to know that that was a failed experiment off the East Coast, and while Oregon is struggling so much to figure out how to do just one thing correctly, they want to bring up another experiment. It’s ridiculous, and it’s disrespectful of the Oregon people that are really tired of not having their voices heard.” [KPNW, 12:09, [3/18/24](#)] (AUDIO)

- **The Windmill Farm Would Increase Offshore Wind Energy Capacity.** “In support of the Biden-Harris administration’s goals for deploying 30 gigawatts (GW) of offshore wind energy capacity by 2030 and 15 GW of floating offshore wind energy capacity by 2035, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) today announced the designation of two final Wind Energy Areas (WEAs) offshore Oregon. The WEAs were developed following extensive engagement and feedback from the state, Tribes, local residents, ocean users, federal government partners, and other members of the public. The final WEAs are based on reducing potential conflicts of ocean users, particularly on commercial fishing.” [Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Press Release, [2/13/24](#)]

Environment

DeSpain: “I Do Not Believe That Humans Are Causing Climate Change”

DeSpain: “I Do Not Believe That Humans Are Causing Climate Change. [...] To Think That Humans Are Going To Change The Climate Significantly Is Not My Position At All.” DESPAIN: “I do not believe that humans are causing climate change, or however they stated that specifically. But I do believe that human beings have an impact on the planet Earth. There are islands of trash floating in the Pacific Ocean. Human beings on the Earth have a major impact on the planet Earth. But to think that humans are going to change the climate significantly is not my position at all.” [The Lars Larson Show, Soundcloud, 7:02, [5/2/24](#)] (AUDIO)

Health Care

DeSpain Said She Would Support Legislation To Decrease The Cost Of Prescription Drugs. “‘Healthcare inflation is one of the most severe forms of inflation impacting all Americans,’ DeSpain said. She said she would support legislation to decrease the cost of prescription drugs, and that her goal of encouraging economic growth with low inflation would also improve health care access. DeSpain said she would reduce ‘stifling government regulations on doctors, nurses, and private healthcare providers’ which would help those providers ‘respond to the ever-growing demand for healthcare services and medications.’ DeSpain said she supports ‘Right to Try’ policies ‘so that advanced, life-saving treatments will be available to those facing serious health crises.’” [The Register Guard, [4/29/24](#)]

Homelessness

DeSpain For Congress Priorities Page: “Tackle Rampant Homelessness.” [Monique DeSpain for Congress, accessed [11/16/23](#)]

DeSpain Opposed “Housing First” Models To Address Homelessness, Saying All Homelessness-Focused Nonprofits Should Focus On Addiction And Mental Health Treatment. “For DeSpain, the transparency priority involves digging into government spending, especially in the nonprofit sector, and defunding the initiatives that aren't working. ‘We have nonprofits that I would argue are in it for profit,’ she said. As one example, DeSpain and Ryan Courser both criticized the ‘housing first’ model, and DeSpain said she believes all nonprofits in the homelessness sector should focus on addiction and mental health treatment. ‘Recovery from addiction and illness is the only path to independent living and independent housing, and all programs in the homelessness, addiction, and mental health space must make recovery their mission,’ she said, while calling other programs enabling. ‘I would eliminate those organizations in this effort to eliminate drug addiction and help people get into recovery and into a purposeful life.’” [The Register Guard, [5/2/24](#)]

Immigration

DeSpain Supported “Sensible Asylum Policies”

DeSpain Supported “Commonsense Asylum Laws.” “Both candidates criticized President Joe Biden and the Democrats' handling of the U.S.-Mexico border and said closing it was their top priority, while also saying they support citizenship paths for documented immigrants. But Ryan Courser said she supports ‘no amnesty’ while DeSpain said she supports ‘commonsense asylum laws.’” [The Register Guard, [5/2/24](#)]

DeSpain Advocated For “Sensible Asylum Policies.” “Real immigration reform is overdue. Deploy me to Congress, and I'll tirelessly work for sensible asylum policies and efficient processes. Let's end abuses, reinstate 'Remain in Mexico', and advocate for fair immigration policies.” [MoniqueforCongress, Twitter, [4/11/24](#)]



[MoniqueforCongress, Twitter, [4/11/24](#)]

DeSpain Advocated For The Remain In Mexico Policy And Closing The Southern Border

DeSpain Advocated For The Remain In Mexico Policy. “Real immigration reform is overdue. Deploy me to Congress, and I'll tirelessly work for sensible asylum policies and efficient processes. Let's end abuses, reinstate 'Remain in Mexico', and advocate for fair immigration policies.” [MoniqueforCongress, Twitter, [4/11/24](#)]



MoniqueforCongress
@MoniqueforOR

...

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[MoniqueforCongress, Twitter, [4/11/24](#)]

DeSpain Advocated For Closing The Southern Border. “A highlight of the public safety priority involves closing the U.S.-Mexico border, which she and Ryan Courser expressed similar views on. ‘Some of (the migrants) hate our country and would like to destroy our way of life. And they're coming over our border. So that is my number one issue.’ DeSpain also attributed the increase in fentanyl addiction and deaths to the border, ‘fentanyl is not sprouting organically along the I-5. It's coming over the border.’ DeSpain said she also supported immigration reform, but said it should not have to be tied to border security. ‘The obvious major burning issue is our border and securing the border, which is a separate issue from immigration reform ... we need to reform that as well,’ she said.” [The Register Guard, [5/2/24](#)]

DeSpain Faulted The Southern Border For A Rise In Fentanyl Addiction And Death. “A highlight of the public safety priority involves closing the U.S.-Mexico border, which she and Ryan Courser expressed similar views on. ‘Some of (the migrants) hate our country and would like to destroy our way of life. And they're coming over our border. So that is my number one issue.’ DeSpain also attributed the increase in fentanyl addiction and deaths to the border, ‘fentanyl is not sprouting organically along the I-5. It's coming over the border.’ DeSpain said she also supported immigration reform, but said it should not have to be tied to border security. ‘The obvious major burning issue is our border and securing the border, which is a separate issue from immigration reform ... we need to reform that as well,’ she said.” [The Register Guard, [5/2/24](#)]

DeSpain Supported The Protecting Our Communities From Failure To Secure The Border Act Of 2023, Which Would Prohibit Housing Undocumented Immigrants On Federal Lands

DeSpain Supported The Protecting Our Communities From Failure To Secure The Border Act Of 2023. “Other public safety positions DeSpain outlined include support for Protecting our Communities from Failure to Secure the Border Act of 2023, which DeSpain said could be used to combat instances like camping in the Bureau of Land Management-governed West Eugene Wetlands, more medical personnel in jails, making it easier to have people committed to mental health institutions, and blocking federal funding cities that defund police.” [The Register Guard, [5/2/24](#)]

- **DeSpain Criticized Hoyle For Voting Against The Protecting Our Communities From Failure To Secure The Border Act.** “DeSpain criticized Hoyle for voting against the Protecting our Communities from Failure to Secure the Border Act of 2023, which aimed to prohibit the federal government from housing undocumented immigrants on federal land following a proposal from the National Park Service and the City of New York to set up a migrant shelter in a national recreation area there. DeSpain said the bill would prevent ‘homeless encampments for illegal immigrants in our national parks and forests.’” [The Register Guard, [4/29/24](#)]
- **The Protecting Our Communities From Failure To Secure The Border Act Would Prohibit Federal Lands From Being Used To House Undocumented Immigrants.** “This bill prohibits the federal

government from using certain federally administered lands to provide housing to any non-U.S. nationals (aliens under federal law) who have not been admitted into the United States. Specifically, this prohibition shall apply to any land under the administrative jurisdiction of the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, or the Forest Service. The bill also revokes a 2023 lease between the National Park Service and the City of New York to use portions of the Gateway National Recreation Area to provide housing to migrant persons.” [Congress.gov, H.R. 5283, introduced [8/25/23](#)]

DeSpain On Democratic Border Policy: “I Think We’ll Be Fortunate If We Don’t Have Another 9/11 Event In The Months Ahead”

DeSpain On Democratic Border Policy: “I Think We’ll Be Fortunate If We Don’t Have Another 9/11 Event In The Months Ahead.” DESPAIN: “Who’s going to argue that the Democrats don’t want the border secured now? I mean, they’ll probably deny that any of this is even happening, I do talk to people like that. I mean, they’re just backing themselves into a corner. But, these are very serious times, and I think we’ll be fortunate if we don’t have another 9/11 event in the months ahead.” [Oregon Roundup Podcast, 12:30, [2/1/24](#)] (AUDIO)

DeSpain Agreed That It Was “Insulting” To Call Illegal Immigrants “Immigrants,” That It Was Similar To “Calling A Pharmacist And A Crack Dealer As Both Members Of The Pharmaceutical Trade”

DeSpain Agreed That It Was “Insulting” To Call Illegal Immigrants “Immigrants,” That It Was Similar To “Calling A Pharmacist And A Crack Dealer As Both Members Of The Pharmaceutical Trade.” HOST: “There are immigrants to America, more than 1 million per year that come here legally. It’s very tough, it’s expensive, it’s time-consuming, it often takes years to come here legally. And I call those people ‘immigrants,’ which America does need. To mix them up with people who have just come across the border illegally—unverified, unvetted, and everything else and not intending to abide by our laws—to call them both by the same name is like calling a pharmacist and a crack dealer as both members of the pharmaceutical trade.” DESPAIN: “I agree.” HOST: “I think it’s insulting to real immigrants to describe any of these illegal alien border-hoppers as ‘immigrants.’ Can we agree on that?” DESPAIN: “Absolutely. I talk to legal immigrants every week who are offended just as you say. [The Lars Larson Show, Soundcloud, 2:37, [4/16/24](#)] (AUDIO)

DeSpain Would Not Answer Whether She Would Have Voted For Impeaching Mayorkas

DeSpain Would Not Answer Whether She Would Have Voted For Impeaching Mayorkas. HOST: “If you were in Congress right now, would you have voted for or against the impeachment of Secretary Mayorkas, the Homeland Security Sec.?” DESPAIN: “Hmm, well, I don’t have all the information that the committee listened to, but he certainly seems to be ignoring the problem. And that’s what these career politicians keep doing is ignoring these glaring problems. He needs to be held accountable and start producing results, for sure.” [The Lars Larson Show, Soundcloud, 2:57, [11/16/23](#)] (AUDIO)

Israel

DeSpain Said It Was “Unbelievable” That Hoyle Refused To Condemn Rising Antisemitism In The United States. HOST: “What do you say about Val Hoyle and the fact that she refuses to condemn rising antisemitism in the United States and apparently a Democrat-sponsored pro-Hamas terrorism point of view?” DESPAIN: “It’s unbelievable and we need to raise voters’ awareness. It’s such a no-brainer to condemn the rise in antisemitism in our country, around the world, and right here in Eugene.” [The Lars Larson Show, Soundcloud, 1:48, [12/20/23](#)] (AUDIO)

DeSpain On Congress Funding Universities In The Wake Of Pro-Palestine Protests: “Cut Off The Money [...] They Need To Get It Under Control And Keep Their University Safe For All Students, And If They Just Ignore That, Then The Funding Should Stop.” HOST: “I want to ask you what you think Congress’ role should be in addressing this mess on American college campuses—both public and private—because I think that Congress ought to defund most of these universities. By that I mean that Congress doesn’t necessarily do the direct funding of the school, but what they do is shovel out an amazing amount of grants that are given out to universities. Even the private schools are getting literally hundreds of millions of dollars. Is there any reasoning to keep sending money to places that have become as radical and as dangerous as it appears some of these campuses have become?” DESPAIN: “No, they shouldn’t be funding them, it’s more funding of failure. I think that you follow the money, just like in our discussions of the homelessness industrial complex, these nonprofits that get so much money, same with these universities: cut off the money so they’ll pay attention when we have Congressional leadership that’s standing up. Speaker Johnson, did you hear him speaking at Columbia University to call on the leadership? That’s leadership, and making that public demand that they need to get it under control and keep their university safe for all students, and if they just ignore that, then the funding should stop.” [The Lars Larson Show, Soundcloud, 1:32, [5/2/24](#)] (AUDIO)

Term Limits

DeSpain Said She Was “Fine With Three Terms In The House And Two Terms In The Senate.” DESPAIN: “I am sincere. I am not interested in being a career politician, never have been. I’m fine with three terms in the House and two terms in the Senate.” [The Lars Larson Show, Soundcloud, 3:15, [3/1/24](#)] (AUDIO)

- **DeSpain Signed The Term Limit Pledge.** “U.S. Term Limits (USTL), the leader in the non-partisan national movement to limit terms for elected officials, praises 2024 U.S. House candidate for Oregon, Monique DeSpain (District 4), for signing the pledge for an amendment to term limit Congress. DeSpain is the first signer in this race.” [U.S. Term Limits, Press Release, [1/23/24](#)]

Veterans

DeSpain Listed Her Rank As “Colonel” Without Indicating She Was Retired As Required By Air Force Guidelines. “Last week, retired State Senator Tony Corcoran filed a formal complaint with the Air Force Inspector General (below) and the Federal Elections Commission against Monique DeSpain, Republican CD4 congressional candidate for repeatedly violating Air Force regulations and prominently displaying her rank as ‘Colonel’ on campaign materials without listing her ‘retired’ status as required by the rules.” [Democratic Party of Oregon, [5/19/24](#)]

Voting Rights

DeSpain Advocated For Early Voting

DeSpain Advocated For Early Voting. DESPAIN: “Absolutely, I agree. Get [your ballots] in early.” [The Lars Larson Show, Soundcloud, 1:30, [5/2/24](#)] (AUDIO)

DeSpain Supported Voter ID Laws

DeSpain Supported Voter ID Laws. “Our election system, like any aspect of our government, must be secure, accurate, and transparent. It is absolutely essential to our democratic process of one person, one vote. This includes requiring a photo ID to vote, updated and accurate voter registration records, and vote tallying by controlled and certified machines and software that are made in America.” [Monique DeSpain for Congress, Issues, accessed [6/26/24](#)]

DeSpain Argued Against Automatic Voter Registration

DeSpain Wrote A Letter To The Oregon House Rules Committee Urging Members To Vote For A Bill That Would End Automatic Voter Registration In Oregon. “Common Sense for Oregon is a non-partisan organization that supports common sense solutions to the problems facing the citizens of Oregon by focusing on good, sound, consistent public policy and governance at all levels of government. Common Sense urges each House Rules Committee Member to vote YES on HB 2585.” [Oregon Legislature, accessed [11/7/23](#)]

- **House Bill 2585 Would End Automatic Voter Registration In Oregon.** “Ends automatic voter registration through Oregon Motor Voter. Reestablishes process of registration at any office of Department of Transportation where licenses or renewal applications are distributed or received that existed prior to enactment of Oregon Motor Voter.” [Oregon Legislature, H.B. 2585, [1/9/23](#)]

In Her Letter, DeSpain Wrote That “The Government Should Not ‘Automatically’ Register People To Vote At The DMV, Or Anywhere Else,” Continuing With “There Are Ample Opportunities For Citizens To Voluntarily Register To Vote.” “The government should not ‘automatically’ register people to vote at the DMV, or anywhere else. There are ample opportunities for citizens to voluntarily register to vote at County Elections Offices and on-line through the Office of the Secretary of State. Voting is a right and a choice for eligible adults.” [Oregon Legislature, accessed [11/7/23](#)]

Professional History

2023: DeSpain Became General Counsel For Common Sense For Oregon

2023: DeSpain Became General Counsel For Common Sense For Oregon. [Monique DeSpain, LinkedIn, accessed [11/7/23](#)]

Common Sense For Oregon Advocated For Transparent Government And Fought “Wasteful Government Spending.” “Common Sense for Oregon’s goal is to serve the people of Oregon by making it a better place to live and raise a family. We advocate for a transparent government and also fight wasteful government spending. We work for simple and clear government regulation but only where it is needed. We press for a straightforward, clear, and balanced tax system, which is fair to all. By protecting Oregon’s 100-year-old initiative system and referendum process, Common Sense for Oregon is an advocate for the voice of the people. Writing and supporting ballot measures allows Common Sense to be on the front lines of the battle for Oregon’s future.” [Common Sense for Oregon, accessed [11/7/23](#)]

2021-2023: DeSpain Was An Attorney For The Kevin Mannix Law Firm

2021: DeSpain Became An Attorney At The Kevin Mannix Law Firm. “Monique DeSpain joined the Kevin Mannix Law Firm in 2021, shortly after her retirement from the United States Air Force, and the Oregon Air National Guard, where she served for over 20 years as a military lawyer, retiring in the grade of Colonel.” [Mannix Law Firm, Attorneys, accessed [11/7/23](#)]

- **July 2021-January 2023: DeSpain Reported She Was An Attorney At Mannix Law Firm.** [Monique DeSpain, LinkedIn, accessed [11/7/23](#)]

2020: DeSpain Was The VP Of Operations At Silent Falcon UAS

2020: DeSpain Was The VP Of Operations At Silent Falcon UAS. “Meet our VP of Operations Monique DeSpain!” [SilentFalconUAS, Twitter, [6/26/20](#)]



[SilentFalconUAS, Twitter, [6/26/20](#)]

1989-2019: DeSpain Was A Judge Advocate General For The United States Air Force

1989-2019: DeSpain Was A Judge Advocate General For The United States Air Force. [Monique DeSpain, LinkedIn, accessed [11/7/23](#)]

2011: DeSpain Was The General Counsel At Evergreen International Aviation, Was Fired, And Later Sued For Gender-Based Discrimination

2011: DeSpain Was The General Counsel At Evergreen International Aviation

January-July 2011: DeSpain Was The General Counsel At Evergreen International Aviation. “In her complaint filed in U.S. District Court, DeSpain said Evergreen hired her as general counsel in January 2011 and fired her in July that year.” [Oregon Live, [6/5/12](#)]

July 2011: DeSpain Was Fired From Her Position At Evergreen International Aviation

July 2011: DeSpain Was Fired From Evergreen International Aviation. “In her complaint filed in U.S. District Court, DeSpain said Evergreen hired her as general counsel in January 2011 and fired her in July that year.” [Oregon Live, [6/5/12](#)]

February 2012: DeSpain Filed An Employment Discrimination Lawsuit Against Evergreen International Aviation, Requesting \$500,000 For Damages

DeSpain Alleged That Her Manager Was Dismissive Of Her And Treated Her Male Peers More Responsively And Positively. “While it was clear to Plaintiff that Mr. Klump and other male executives were permitted to raise and discuss tough issues, Mr. Wahlberg denied Plaintiff the same freedom. He routinely cut her off in mid-sentence and either picked up the phone to call someone else or asked a male in the room to explain or describe issues she raised and then refused to allow her to communicate any further. Mr. Wahlberg became agitated when Plaintiff asked questions, when Plaintiff insisted on participating in meetings or when Plaintiff pressed him

for his stance on tough issues. Mr. Wahlberg made snide comments about the questions Plaintiff raised and easily became annoyed and dismissive when she contributed to discussions. Often Mr. Wahlberg would just glare at Plaintiff across the boardroom table. Mr. Wahlberg actively undermined Plaintiff's developing relationships with other senior executives. Plaintiff was warned by these men that Mr. Wahlberg was actively undermining her. [...] Mr. Wahlberg did not treat Plaintiff's male peers in the same manner as he treated her. He readily involved them in decision making. He fielded their questions on a variety of matters without interruption, criticism or snide comments. He was, in general, more responsive and positive in his interactions with Plaintiff's male peers and treated the male executives with significantly more respect than he afforded Plaintiff." [DeSpain v. Evergreen International Aviation, Inc et al, Oregon District Court, Complaint, PACER, 2/23/12]

DeSpain Gave Her Oregon Air National Guard Weekend Drill Schedule To Her Manager, Who She Alleges Responded By Mocking The Schedule And Terminated Her Three Days Later. "On July 17, 2011, during her monthly weekend drill with the Oregon Air National Guard, Plaintiff forwarded her newly-released fiscal year 2011 drill schedule to Mr. Wahlberg, Mr. Klump and Mr. Smith's secretary. This schedule listed all of the dates she would be committed to weekend military obligations. Plaintiff's orders were issued under the authority of 32 U.S.C. § 502. Plaintiff also informed Mr. Wahlberg and Mr. Klump that she would work at the base on the Friday prior to each drill weekend to fulfill her annual training requirements. A day or two after sending the email, Plaintiff asked Mr. Klump if he had received her military drill schedule and if that would serve as sufficient notice to Human Resources. Much to Plaintiff's surprise, Mr. Klump stated he had received it, but then asked, 'So is THAT what you people do?' and started mocking the duty schedule's posting inclusion of references to 'Family Day' and 'Christmas Party' associated with two of the 12 monthly training activities. Mr. Klump's derogatory remark disappointed and troubled Plaintiff, but as both were heading off in different directions down the hall, she chose not to inform him of what actually occurs to support an operational fighter wing, in the course of these monthly, two-day training sessions. [...] Plaintiff was terminated within three days of this exchange with Mr. Klump." [DeSpain v. Evergreen International Aviation, Inc et al, Oregon District Court, Complaint, PACER, 2/23/12]

- **DeSpain Was Terminated Three Days After A Discussion About Her Military Obligations And Following An Argument About Paid Vacation.** "The complaint also alleges that Evergreen's Human Resources Director, Dan Klump, raised objections about DeSpain's military commitments, which included working at the Portland Airbase on Fridays before monthly drill weekends. Three days after a discussion about her military obligations for the coming year, and following an argument about whether she should have been paid for a vacation week in June, she was fired, the complaint says. She said her termination was 'devastating' and damaged her reputation." [Oregon Live, [6/5/12](#)]

DeSpain's Manager Said They Had "Come To An Impasse" When She Asked Why She Was Terminated. "When Plaintiff asked for an explanation of their decision, Mr. Wahlberg stated simply that they had 'come to an impasse' and no longer wished to retain her services." [DeSpain v. Evergreen International Aviation, Inc et al, Oregon District Court, Complaint, PACER, 2/23/12]

DeSpain Alleged Sex Discrimination And Requested \$500,000 In Compensatory Damages. "Defendant discriminated against and terminated Plaintiff because of her sex and because of its belief that Plaintiff, being a woman, should act in a stereo typically feminine manner. Defendant subjected Plaintiff to unlawful sex stereotyping by taking adverse actions against Plaintiff for displaying characteristics that are considered positive when exhibited by male executives. Defendant treated Plaintiff less favorably than similarly situated male coworkers because of Plaintiff's sex. [...] As a direct and proximate result of defendant's discriminatory conduct, Plaintiff has suffered embarrassment, anxiety, humiliation, anger, emotional distress, inconvenience, and loss of enjoyment of life and is entitled to an award of compensatory damages in the amount of \$500,000." [DeSpain v. Evergreen International Aviation, Inc et al, Oregon District Court, Complaint, PACER, 2/23/12]

March 2012: Evergreen International Aviation Responded To The Lawsuit By Saying DeSpain Did Not Accurately Represent Her Background When Interviewing For The Position And Said She Was “Impolite, Demanding, And Behaved Inappropriately”

In Their Response To DeSpain’s Complaint, Evergreen International Aviation Said DeSpain Did Not Accurately Represent Her Background When Interviewing For The Position. “Defendants deny the remaining allegations of paragraph 12 of the Complaint and state further that plaintiff did not accurately represent her background, abilities, experience, competence or other qualities at the time she participated in defendant Evergreen's hiring process.” [DeSpain v. Evergreen International Aviation, Inc et al, Oregon District Court, Answer to Complaint, PACER, 3/15/12]

In Their Response To DeSpain’s Complaint, Evergreen International Aviation Said DeSpain Lacked The Skills She Represented Herself As Having When She Was Hired. “Defendants further state that plaintiff's work as an attorney was insufficient, inconsistent with the representations plaintiff made at the time she was hired, and that she lacked the skills she represented herself as having.” [DeSpain v. Evergreen International Aviation, Inc et al, Oregon District Court, Answer to Complaint, PACER, 3/15/12]

In Their Response To DeSpain’s Complaint, Evergreen International Aviation Said DeSpain Was “Impolite, Demanding, And Behaved Inappropriately.” “Answering paragraph 68, defendants state that plaintiff was impolite, demanding, and behaved inappropriately in her conversations with Mr. Wahlberg, her superior, insisting that an exception be made for her.” [DeSpain v. Evergreen International Aviation, Inc et al, Oregon District Court, Answer to Complaint, PACER, 3/15/12]

August 2013: The Case Was Settled Outside Of Court On Undisclosed Terms

August 2013: The Court Was Settled Out Of Court On Undisclosed Terms. “One reason Evergreen didn't defend itself in suits may have been the firing of its chief counsel in July 2011. Monique DeSpain then sued Evergreen International Aviation and its then president, Wahlberg, accusing them of sex discrimination and other offenses. The case, which dragged on until August, was settled out of court on undisclosed terms, Wahlberg said.” [Oregon Live, [11/22/13](#)]

The Court Dismissed The Case With Prejudice, Stating “That No Party Is A Prevailing Party For Any Purpose.” “IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED by and between the parties to this action through their respective counsel of record that the above-referenced action be dismissed in its entirety, including all claims and counterclaims, with prejudice and without costs or fees to any party, and that no party is a prevailing party for any purpose.” [DeSpain v. Evergreen International Aviation, Inc et al, Oregon District Court, Stipulated Notice of Dismissal, PACER, 8/26/13]

2004-2011: DeSpain Was The President/Owner Of Monique J. DeSpain, P.C. Where She Worked As A Management And Legal Consultant

2004-2011: DeSpain Was The President/Owner Of Monique J. DeSpain, P.C. Where She Worked As A Management And Legal Consultant. “Management and legal consultant specializing in high volume asset recovery litigation, conflict resolution, mediation, negotiation and arbitration.” [Monique DeSpain, LinkedIn, accessed [11/7/23](#)]

Non-Profits

2016-2017: DeSpain Was On The Board Of The Center For Dialogue And Resolution



Tax Year 2017: DeSpain Was The Vice President Of The Center For Dialogue And Resolution. [IRS, [5/10/18](#)]

Tax Year 2016: DeSpain Was A Board Member For The Center For Dialogue And Resolution. [IRS, [5/22/18](#)]

The Center For Dialogue And Resolution Was A Nonprofit That Provided Conflict Mediation

The Center For Dialogue And Resolution Was A Nonprofit That Provided Conflict Mediation. “Community Mediation Services, now the Center for Dialogue and Resolution (CDR) has been serving Lane County as a non-profit organization since 1982. As mediators we assist parties in conflict by guiding them through an informal dialogue process in which they are empowered to collaboratively create a win-win resolution with each other.” [Center for Dialogue and Resolution, About, accessed [11/2/23](#)]

Personal Political History

Personal Political Donations

DeSpain Has Given \$12,105 To Federal Political Candidates

According to the Federal Election Commission, DeSpain has given \$12,105 to federal political candidates.

DeSpain Political Giving History - Federal			
Date	Candidate (Office Sought)	Party	Amount
12/31/23	Monique DeSpain (OR-04)	R	\$12,000
9/20/22	Alek Skarlatos (OR-04)	R	\$100
9/20/22	Alek Skarlatos (OR-04)	R	\$5
		Total	\$12,105

[FEC, Individual Contribution Search, accessed [6/26/24](#)]

DeSpain Volunteered For The Skarlatos Campaign. “DeSpain said she began getting involved in politics in 2019, shortly after she retired from 30 years in the military. She was an Air Force Colonel and a Judge Advocate General (JAG) Officer (military legal counsel). In 2019 she began volunteering with Lane County Republicans. There, she door-knocked for Alek Skarlatos, the Republican congressional nominee for the district in 2020 and 2022.” [The Register Guard, [5/2/24](#)]

DeSpain Has Given \$250 To State-Level Political Candidates

According to Oregon Secretary of State, DeSpain has given \$250 to state-level candidates.

DeSpain Political Giving History – Oregon			
Date	Candidate (Office Sought) or Committee	Party	Amount
9/15/23	Tim Knopp (State Senate)	R	\$250
		Total	\$250

[Oregon Secretary of State, [9/15/23](#)]

DeSpain Has Given \$465 To The Oregon Republican Party

According to the Federal Election Commission, DeSpain has given \$465 to the Oregon Republican Party.

DeSpain Political Giving History – Oregon Republican Party			
Date	Committee	Party	Amount
9/20/21	Oregon Republican Party	R	\$215
5/8/23	Oregon Republican Party	R	\$125
5/8/23	Oregon Republican Party	R	\$125
		Total	\$465

[FEC, Individual Contribution Search, accessed [11/2/23](#)]

Voter Activity

DeSpain Was Registered To Vote In Lane County

As Of November 7, 2023, DeSpain Was Registered To Vote In Lane County Oregon. [Oregon Secretary of State, accessed [11/7/23](#)]

2003 – 2023: DeSpain Voting History

DeSpain Voting History (2003-2023)	
Year	Description
2023	Voted in the local election
2022	Voted in the primary and general elections
2021	Voted in the local election
2020	Voted in the primary and general elections
2019	Voted in the local election
2018	Voted in the primary, general, and special elections
2017	Voted in the local election
2016	Voted in the Republican primary and general elections
2015	Did not vote
2014	Voted in the primary and general elections
2013	Voted in the local election
2012	Voted in the general election
2011	Did not vote
2010	Voted in the primary, general, and special elections
2009	Did not vote
2008	Voted in the primary and general elections
2007	Voted in the special election
2006	Voted in the primary and general elections
2005	Voted in the local election
2004	Voted in the general and special elections
2003	Voted in the special election

[VoteBuilder, accessed 11/1/23]

Local Political Involvement

DeSpain Was A Republican Precinct Committee Person In Lane County Oregon. [CivicLive, [6/30/22](#)]

Public Records

Traffic Violation Record

As of November 2023, Monique DeSpain was associated with the following traffic violations. [Nexis Criminal Records search, accessed 11/7/23]

Monique DeSpain Traffic Violation Record	
Offense	Date
Violating the Basic Speed Rule	9/27/13
Violating a Speed Limit	9/12/06

[Nexis Criminal Records search, accessed 11/7/23]

NOTE: Further research necessary to determine whether Monique DeSpain has a criminal record.

Bankruptcy, Judgments, & Liens

As of November 2023, Monique DeSpain was associated with the following bankruptcy, judgments, or liens. [Nexis Bankruptcy, Judgments, & Liens search, accessed 11/7/23]

Monique DeSpain Associated Bankruptcy, Judgments, And Liens				
Date	Filing Office	Type	Amount	Creditor
5/8/06	Multnomah Circuit Court – Portland, Oregon	Civil Judgment	\$3,420	LVNV Funding, LLC
5/8/06	Multnomah Circuit Court – Portland, Oregon	Civil Judgment	\$1,515	LVNV Funding, LLC
5/8/06	Multnomah Circuit Court – Portland, Oregon	Civil Judgment	\$3,973	LVNV Funding, LLC
5/10/06	Multnomah Circuit Court – Portland, Oregon	Civil Judgment	\$1,326	LVNV Funding, LLC
6/16/06	Multnomah Circuit Court – Portland, Oregon	Civil Judgment	\$2,858	Arrow Financial Services, LLC
6/16/06	Multnomah Circuit Court – Portland, Oregon	Civil Judgment	\$1,661	Arrow Financial Services, LLC

NOTE: Further research necessary into whether DeSpain or her associated entities had bankruptcies, judgments or liens.

June 16, 2006: DeSpain Represented Arrow Financial Services LLC At A Lien Hearing In The MUL Civil Court. [Oregon Judicial Department, accessed [11/8/23](#)]

Licenses

Oregon State Bar

DeSpain Was An Active Member With The Oregon State Bar. [Oregon State Bar, accessed [11/8/23](#)]

October 13, 1999: DeSpain Was Admitted To The Oregon State Bar. [Oregon State Bar, accessed [11/8/23](#)]

DeSpain Had No Disciplinary Sanctions From The Oregon State Bar. [Oregon State Bar, accessed [11/8/23](#)]

Sports Licenses

2015-2016: Nexis Comprehensive Report Reported That DeSpain Had Four Sports Licenses. [Nexis Comprehensive Person Report, accessed 11/8/23]

Methodology

Searches Performed In This Document

DATABASE	NOTES (e.g., search term(s), URL, etc.)
Nexis – News	Monique w/2 DeSpain – 85 total results “Monique DeSpain” AND “Kevin Mannix” “Common Sense for Oregon” – 105 total results “Oregon Liberty Alliance” – 18 total results kevin w/2 mannix AND controvers! OR ethic! OR investig! OR complaint! AND atleast5(mannix); limited to All OR News – 116 total results kevin w/2 mannix and "workers' compensation" and "complaint" – 12 total results kevin w/2 mannix and "election" AND "inquiry" – 15 total results
Nexis – Comprehensive Person Report	Monique DeSpain
Nexis – Bankruptcy, Judgments, & Liens	Monique DeSpain
Nexis – Criminal Records	Monique DeSpain
Nexis – Comprehensive Business Report	Common Sense for Oregon Mannix Law Firm Silent Falcon UAS Monique DeSpain PC
Google Search	Monique DeSpain – 66 results reviewed Monique DeSpain Evergreen Aviation – 8 results reviewed Kevin Mannix abortion – 10 results reviewed Oregon S.B. 348 – 4 results reviewed Common Sense for Oregon – 15 results reviewed Mannix Law Firm – 17 results reviewed
Illumis	Monique DeSpain
VoteBuilder	Monique Jahree DeSpain, VANID 815061
Oregon Secretary of State	Monique DeSpain, DOB 4/17/1964

FEC Individual Contribution Search	Monique DeSpain
Oregon Campaign Finance Search	Contributor: Monique DeSpain
National Institute on Money in State Politics (Follow the Money)	Monique DeSpain
Oregon Judicial Department – Online Records Search	Monique J DeSpain
LinkedIn	Monique DeSpain
Facebook	The Center for Dialogue & Resolution Monique DeSpain
Twitter	@CDR_Lane_County @MoniqueforOR
Website	https://moniqueforcongress.com/
Instagram	@moniqueforcongress
IRS Tax Exempt Organization Search	Employer Identification Number (EIN) 93-0806236
Lane County Oregon Property Search	776 Brookside Drive, Eugene, Oregon, 97405
PACER	Monique DeSpain Evergreen International Aviation, Inc. (defendant)
Oregon State Lobbyist Search	Monique DeSpain Common Sense for Oregon
OpenSecrets Federal Lobbying Search	Monique DeSpain
Common Sense for Oregon website	https://commonsensefororegon.org/
Ballotpedia	Kevin Mannix
Oregon State Bar Membership Directory	Monique DeSpain
PPP Loan Search	Common Sense for Oregon Mannix Law Firm Silent Falcon UAS Monique DeSpain PC
Oregon Legislature site search	Monique DeSpain Common Sense for Oregon
Lars Larson Show	November 16, 2023 December 5, 2023 December 20, 2023 January 24, 2024 March 1, 2024 April 5, 2024 April 16, 2024 May 2, 2024
YouTube	KVAL News Extended Interview KVAL News Campaign Launch DeSpain Primary Victory Speech
KQEN	November 22, 2023 January 4, 2024 May 9, 2024
KPNW	November 16, 2023 December 6, 2023 January 25, 2024 March 18, 2024 April 5, 2024
Personal Financial Disclosure	Monique DeSpain 2023 Candidate Report



	Monique DeSpain 2024 Candidate Report
Newsmakers	February 19, 2024 April 3, 2024
Oregon Roundup Podcast	February 1, 2024

Important Note On This Document

Please keep in mind at all times that this is preliminary research, and further research will be necessary on Monique DeSpain. It is strongly recommended that you contact the DCCC’s Research Department for more information and in the event that you intend to use material from this report for public communications purposes. Thank you.