

EXTEND THE RESOURCES

Below is a list of ideas and ways you might use the resources provided on this Classroom Law Project resource page to extend learning and civic engagement for your students:

Start with Choice & Inquiry:

The sections on this Current Event Resource Page connect to the 2022 Oregon short Legislative Session. There should be a subtopic within this Current Event that students may find interesting. For example, the history of how the legislature has conducted its business, the debate between annual and biennial regular sessions, the limiting of scope for the short OR legislative sessions, or the bills currently introduced during this year's session. Give students the opportunity to choose a topic or connection of interest and start with that.

Extensions with the Articles/Editorials:

- News Analysis worksheets (handout on current event page)
- Further News Research (Research Tips handout on current event page)
- Annotated summaries of articles
- Socratic discussions with shared article texts

Extensions:

- Dig more deeply into the topic by having students participate in a station activity in which they examine a specific bill introduced at the legislative session. Students, within groups, can then learn about the bill, the debates around its merits and presumed impacts on Oregon life.
- Students, using a variety of sites and teacher facilitation, can review the various bills that are introduced. After some research they can, individually or in small groups, decide on a bill they would like to dedicate time learning about. From there students can do independent research on the topic their chosen bill is addressing. Students can then devise an action plan to either lobby for or against the bill in a manner they, or the teacher, deems most appropriate.
- Create a debate or presentation in which students present their own ideas on whether the current long and short legislative session structure adequately addresses the needs of Oregonians. If students believe the current system is lacking, they can then propose a different system and explain how their system would help the legislature better act on behalf of Oregonians.