

OR-05 District Primer

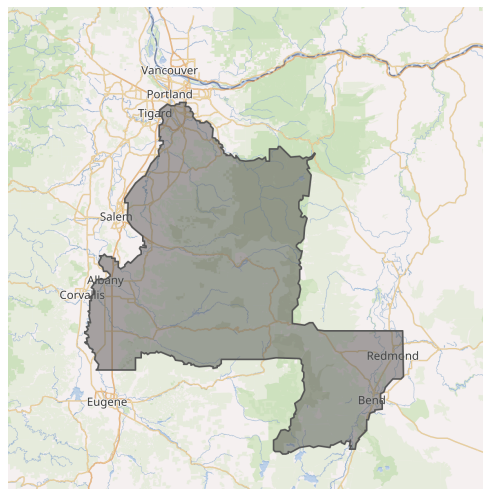
In 2024, Democrat Janelle Bynum won this seat by just 10,945 votes. *That's close!* With a margin of just 10 votes per precinct, we can't afford to lose a single vote. With your help, we're going to **HOLD** this key seat and secure a Democratic House majority in 2026.

Key dates
Filing Deadline: March 10
Primary: May 19
Midterms: November 3

Recent Election Results

2024 Presidential Election	2024 House Election	2022 House Election
Harris: 217,317 (52.8%) Trump: 182,131 (44.2%)	Janelle Bynum (D): 191,365 (47.7%) Lori Chavez-DeRemer (R): 187,420 (45%)	Lori Chavez-DeRemer (R): 178,813 (50.9%) Jamie McLeod-Skinner (D): 171,514 (48.8%)

District Facts & Stats



Citizenry

Around 711,000 people live in this socioeconomically mixed district. The median annual household income is \$93K. The district is 79% white; the next largest group is Hispanic, at 11%. 12.4% of households rely on SNAP. ~43,000 veterans live in the district.

The Local Vibe

Trump's tariffs are hurting businesses in the district that rely on the export market, such as Bob's Red Mill in Clackamas County. In addition, the thirty breweries in the Bend area, which employ more than 700 people, are burdened by increased prices for steel, aluminum, and barley imported from Canada.

Local initiatives thwarted by the dysfunctional 119th Congress include \$30 billion in Community Project Funding for fifteen projects in OR-05. Projects affected include a water plant retrofit, an emergency coordination center, a paper mill, and a wastewater treatment plant.

Town halls with the two senators from Oregon, Ron Wyden (D) and Jeff Merkley (D), have been standing room-only since January 2025. Rep. Bynum has been holding meetings all over the district.

Largest Cities

- Bend (Deschutes County): 107,812
- Albany (Linn County): 56,773

Geography

After redistricting in 2020, OR-05 includes southeast Portland, the eastern Willamette Valley, and Bend and Redmond in Deschutes County. It also includes parts of the counties of Multnomah and Jefferson, most of Clackamas and Linn, and the rural eastern part of Marion County.

Sign up for another event: mobilize.us/swingleft

Updated March 2026 • Researched and edited by Swing Left's all-volunteer research team

Key Issues

- **Economy:** Tariffs are creating instability for the district's consumers and businesses.
 - **Healthcare:** Constituents want protections for Medicare, expansion of Medicaid, and reduced prescription drug prices.
 - **Environment:** Environmental protections promote the public health and economic strength of OR-05.
-

About the Candidates

Janelle Bynum | Democratic Incumbent

Democrat Janelle Bynum has represented OR-05 in the US House of Representatives since 2024. She serves on the House Financial Services Committee and on several subcommittees. From 2017 to 2025, she served in the Oregon House of Representatives, chairing the Committee on Small Business and Economic Development.

Bynum holds an undergraduate degree in electrical engineering from Florida A&M University and an MBA from the University of Michigan. She is a mother of four who lives in Happy Valley. She and her husband own a small business.

Bynum is focused on lowering costs and growing job opportunities. She introduced an amendment that required the Federal Reserve to conduct a study on the economic impacts of tariffs. She has also introduced legislation to help small businesses raise capital through IPOs.

Bynum champions a strong public education system. She co-led the bipartisan IDEA Full Funding Act to ensure all children with disabilities can access free, quality education.

Bynum supports environmental protections, especially those that are clearly tied to the economic strength of her district. Along with Senator Jeff Merkley, she introduced the Deschutes Conservancy Reauthorization Act of 2025.

Bynum advocates for protecting Medicare, expanding Medicaid, and lowering drug prices. She also voted against H. Con. Res. 14, which would have cut benefits to veterans.

Zeva Rosenbaum is challenging Bynum in the May 19 primary. A progressive journalist and artist running a grassroots campaign, Rosenbaum has been endorsed by Courage for Democracy and the Clackamas County Democrats.

The contrast: Rep. Bynum has proven herself to be a talented legislator who can effectively represent the people of Oregon's fifth district. Her opponents, in contrast, hold extreme views and have little or no legislative experience. Unlike her opponents, Bynum is a serious candidate whose pro-business and consumer stances and legislative history are likely to attract Republicans and Independents as well as Democrats.

Republican Challengers

There are several possible candidates; we'll know more after the May 19 primary election. For now, we've identified these front runners:

Deschutes County Commissioner **Patty Adair** is a 74-year-old conservative Republican who lives on a horse ranch near Sisters. She won her seat on the Commission in 2018 by outperforming a more moderate incumbent. Adair claims to be nonpartisan, but she voted to eliminate the county committee on DEI and to prevent the county's health plan from covering abortion services for county employees.

Two other Republican hopefuls are **Jonathan Lockwood**, a former spokesperson for state Senate Republicans, and **Jo Rae Perkins**, a real estate agent and financial services professional.

Sign up for another event: mobilize.us/swingleft

Updated March 2026 • Researched and edited by Swing Left's all-volunteer research team

