

OR-05 District Primer

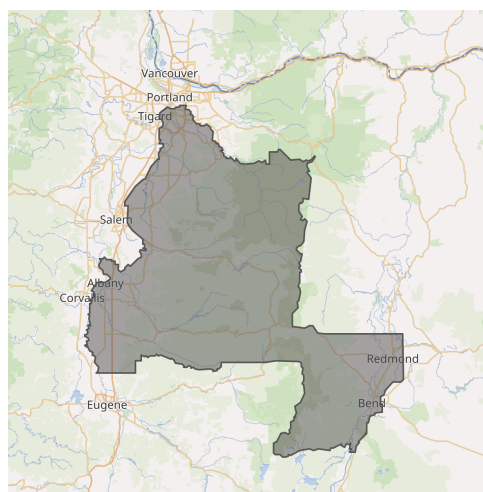
In 2024, Democrat Janelle Bynum won this seat by just 10,945 votes. *That's close!* With a margin of just 10 votes per precinct, we can't afford to lose a single vote. With your help, we're going to **HOLD** this key seat and secure a Democratic House majority in 2026.

| 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): 180,420 (45%) | Chavez-DeRemer (R): 178,813 (50.9%) Jamie McLeod-Skinner (D): 171,514 (48.8%) |

District Facts & Stats



Largest Cities

- Bend, pop. 107,812
- Albany, 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.

Citizenry

This socioeconomically mixed district of ~711,000 has a median annual household income of \$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 that rely on the export market, such as Bob's Red Mill in Clackamas County. In addition, the many breweries in the Bend area, which employ more than 700 people, are burdened by Trump's tariff-driven price increases for steel, aluminum, and barley imported from Canada.

Local initiatives thwarted by the dysfunctional 119th Congress include millions of dollars of lost Community Project Funding for fifteen projects in OR-05 including improvements to water and sewage infrastructure.

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.

In March, five thousand people attended the No Kings protest in Bend. Another two thousand turned out in Albany and Redmond.

Sign up for another event: mobilize.us/swingleft

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

Key Issues

- **Economy:** Trump's tariffs and his disastrous war in Iran are driving up prices, squeezing 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

Janelle Bynum has represented OR-05 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.

A mother of four who lives in Happy Valley, she holds a degree in electrical engineering from Florida A&M University and an MBA from the University of Michigan. 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 also 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. She 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.

Bynum has been endorsed by many local and national labor unions, including AFSCM, UAW, and SEIU. As of April 2026, she had raised more than \$3 million to support her campaign and had \$2.2 million on hand.

Patty Adair | Republican Challenger

Deschutes County Commissioner **Patty Adair** is a conservative Republican accountant who lives on a horse ranch near Sisters. In 2016, she attended the Republican National Convention in 2016 as a delegate supporting Donald Trump. 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. She claims that her background in accounting makes her especially well prepared to balance the federal budget.

The contrast: Rep. Bynum has proven herself to be a talented legislator who can effectively represent the people of Oregon's fifth district. Unlike her under-qualified and extremist opponent, Bynum is a serious candidate whose pro-business and consumer stances, and legislative history make her broadly appealing to Republicans and Independents as well as to Democrats.

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