

## Smith pleased by energy, health care focus of President's speech

*by Bend Weekly News Sources*

U.S. Senator Gordon Smith (R-Oregon) released the following statement Tuesday evening reacting to the President's State of the Union Address:

"It is very important that the President focused on several key issues that families face every day," Smith said. "We need better forms of energy production that won't strap the family budget, but will power our cars and heat our homes efficiently. Equally important is the President's emphasis on healthcare. I am pushing to see that stem cell research, mental health parity legislation, and coverage for children and the uninsured are all among the first issues we address this year."

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