



LOC Legislative Bulletin



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Majority of Legislators Sponsor of Water Rights Bill

HB 3038, which was introduced to address the security of municipal water rights, was first read in the House of Representatives this week. The League and other municipal interest groups have been working hard on co-sponsors for the bill, known as the Responsible Community Planning Act. As introduced, HB 3038 is co-sponsored by 35 representatives and 17 senators. It has been referred to the House Committee on Water and will likely receive a hearing the week of March 28th.

In its current form, the bill removes the five-year requirement to complete construction of a water right. It also redefines construction of a water right to include planning, financing, and obtaining other federal and state permits. Water management and conservation plans, as a condition of water permit extensions, would also be required under the bill. Lastly, and most importantly, the bill validates the past extensions granted to these water rights by the Oregon Department of Water Resources.

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Hometown Action

Please thank your local legislators who co-sponsored HB 3038 (see list on page 7)

Bill Eliminating Three Mile Veto Passes House Committee

The House Land Use Committee, chaired by Bill Garrard (R-Klamath Falls) passed a bill Wednesday that would remove a city's authority to veto the incorporation of a new municipality within three miles of the existing city's urban growth boundary.

The League testified that "full service" cities are essential for long term effective land-use planning, and that some unincorporated areas have not developed into viable cities that can offer the full range of essential urban services. The League urged the committee to retain the existing veto authority of cities statewide.

Chair Garrard indicated that he is very interested in moving some form of annexation legislation, but exactly what it will look like is unknown at this time.

Voting to pass the bill out of committee were: Representatives Bill Garrard (R-Klamath Falls), Gordon Anderson (R-Grants Pass), Mitch Greenlick (D-Portland), Patti Smith (R-Corbett), and Mac Sumner (R-Molalla). Representative Mary Nolan (D-Portland) voted no, Bob Ackerman (D-Eugene) was absent. The bill was sponsored by Representatives Mitch Greenlick (D-Portland), Brad Avakian (D-Washington County), and Dave Hunt (R-Clackamas).



Support the Responsible Community Planning Act

In April 2004, the Oregon Court of Appeals (*Water Watch vs. Coos Bay North Bend Water Board and the Oregon Water Resources Department*) held that in order to be granted a water right permit, a municipality must fully construct the facilities necessary to use the water within five years of receiving the permit. That decision overturned decades of precedent and threw Oregon's careful long-term planning traditions into doubt. The League has introduced HB 3038 to address the security of municipal water rights.

This legislation is critical for the following reasons:

Oregon's 30+ Year Tradition of Long-Range Planning Works

Oregon law requires communities to plan for projected growth over a 20-year horizon. Communities must be able to anticipate and provide certainty for long-term water needs. These efforts often take years of work.

Oregon's Economy Needs Certainty in Water Planning

At a time of economic distress, communities need to be able to provide vital infrastructure and certainty to industries and businesses. *Few industries will locate or expand in our state if the ability of our state to meet their water requirements is in doubt.*

Municipal Water Suppliers and the Water Resources Department Have Invested Years of Effort in Long-Term Supply Planning

Oregon Water Resources Department has rules that ensure municipalities are not hoarding water; are using water efficiently; and are planning for future growth.

The Oregon Water Right Permit Application and Extension Process Needs Certainty

The decision undermines the current rules and introduces multiple levels of uncertainty into municipalities' ability to plan for the future. Multiple permits necessary for water projects now are estimated to take longer than five years.

Currently Held Municipal Water Rights are in Jeopardy

The decision has the potential to render water rights currently serving Oregon citizens and industries null and void if they weren't fully constructed within the first five years of their issuance even though those rights were developed in full compliance with Water Resources Departmental requirements.

City officials should urge their legislators to support HB 3038.

One of the most important things you will do during "City Hall Day" at the Capitol is to meet with your legislators. Call now and make an appointment. There is time set aside in the "City Hall Day" schedule for these meetings between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. However, as these meetings are so important, you may want to make the appointment at another time to accommodate your legislator's schedules. For information on how to contact your legislators go to the Hometown Voices webpage at <http://old.orcities.org/legislative/grassroots/grinformation.cfm> and click on "My District Legislators."

City Hall Day at the Capitol

Wednesday, April 13

Tentative Agenda

- 9:30 a.m. Coffee and Registration
- 10:00 a.m. Legislative Session Overview
Issues Briefing by LOC Staff
- 11:00 a.m. Senate and House Floor Sessions
- 11:30 a.m. Visit from Governor's Chief of Staff, Theresa McHugh
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. Individual Meetings with Legislators
- 3:00 p.m. Visits from Legislative Leadership
PERS Decision Update
- 5:00 p.m. Legislative Reception

Find the City Hall Day at the Capitol registration form on page 4 of the *Bulletin*, or watch for registration information in the mail.

Hometown Calendar:

City Hall Day at the Capitol
April 13

In-District Day for Legislators
March 25 (Good Friday)

Back to School Day
Legislators Visit District Schools
April 22

Senate Committees Shut Down
April 28

In-District Day for Legislators
May 30 (Memorial Day)

For more information, visit the Hometown Voices web page: www.orcities.org/legislative/grassroots/in dex.cfm, or contact Andrea Fogue at LOC: (503) 588-6550 or afogue@orcities.org

TSCC's Days Numbered?

The Senate Revenue Committee, chaired by Ryan Deckert (D-Beaverton), heard SB 899 on Tuesday. What began as a simple hearing to raise the population threshold at which counties would be subject to the processes of the Tax Supervising and Conservation Commission (TSCC) ended with senators questioning the commission's existence.

SB 899 clarifies that in counties with no county clerk or a population of 600,000 or more (only Multnomah County fits that description), municipal budgets must be submitted to the TSCC. A product of legislation enacted in 1919, the commission consists of a board appointed by the governor to ensure: municipal budgets in the county are submitted appropriately; taxes levied are within the limits allowed by law; and that processes such as notice and hearings on the budget are followed. The TSCC performs the notice and hearing function for the municipalities in Multnomah County.

Washington County requested the bill, as it expects to reach the existing population threshold of 500,000 soon, and wishes to retain oversight of its budget processes. Clackamas County, the city of Hillsboro and the city of Sherwood submitted testimony in support of the bill.

Senator Floyd Prozanski (D-Eugene) asked why the state should set up a dual standard for Washington versus Multnomah County regarding TSCC. The Senators posed a series of questions to TSCC Director Tom Linhares about the commission's function, and asked Washington County officials how they currently meet their responsibility to citizens regarding airing the budget.

Before concluding the hearing, Senator Deckert asked staff to prepare an amendment to the bill to completely eliminate TSCC, and mentioned that he'd like to hear from a Multnomah County elected official when the amendment is ready for consideration.

Despite Good News, Tough Choices Remain

By David Barenberg, LOC Legislative Director

The state's been on a roll. Over the past few weeks, there has been a steady flow of good news on the budget and revenue front. First, the Oregon Supreme Court ruled in favor of the state in a case involving Medicaid funds and the kicker. If the state had lost, it would have been required to make \$113 million dollars in kicker payments. Next, following a March revenue forecast that was up \$200 million, an agreement was reached between the leaders of the House and Senate on a \$13.396 billion spending level for the 2005-2007 biennium. Finally, the Oregon Supreme Court ruling in the PERS case appears (due to PERS reserves and more than 8 percent returns on investments during the past two years) not to have an immediate impact on the state budget. So the fear of the unknown has now been replaced with the fear of the known: having to craft a budget that will require reductions in programs though less than were feared a few weeks ago.

Another milestone passed last week as the deadline for members to file bills in the House passed (well, sort of – each member is allowed two after the deadline). The deadline in the Senate passed a few weeks earlier. The torrent of bills, hundreds each day at the beginning of the week, slowed to a trickle by week's end.

The next milestones are the April 4 release of the Ways and Means Co-Chairs budget that allocates dollars to each of the subcommittees, allowing them to complete agency budgets; and April 8, when the Senate Committees must conclude action on bills that originate in their chamber. Most Senate Committees will be shut down by April 28. The House has not set deadlines for action by its committees. Another important event will be the release in May of the final forecast of state revenue before the budget is adopted.

Now that the major unknowns are known, the budget process will kick into a higher gear.



League of Oregon Cities

2005 City Hall Day at the Capitol

April 13, 2005
Oregon State Capitol

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ Phone _____
(One person per form – make copies if needed)

Email _____

City _____ Fax _____

Title _____ Address _____

Guest _____ City/Zip _____
(Full name, please)

My guest will be attending: City Hall Day Lunch Legislative Reception

- I plan on attending the City Hall Day lunch following the morning briefing.
- I plan to attend the Legislative Reception sponsored by the League of Oregon Cities at the Local Government Center following City Hall Day, beginning at 5:00 p.m.
- I would like to add \$6.00 to the registration fee for an all-day parking pass to use in any of the 2-hour meter spaces surrounding the Capitol. Parking passes will be sent to the address given above.

Dietary restrictions: _____

The registration fee is **\$30.00**, which includes food and beverages, briefing materials, and the legislative reception. The registration fee is the same for guests.

Payment enclosed: \$_____. **Make checks payable to: League of Oregon Cities**
(\$30 per person plus \$6.00 if you would like a parking pass)
Cancellation Policy: Cancellations must be received by 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, April 6

Registration deadline is April 6. Please fax or mail to: City Hall Day at the Capitol
PO Box 928
Salem, OR 97308
Fax: 503-399-4863

Registration is also available online at www.orcities.org. A packet of materials will be sent once registration is received.

Cities Testify in Senate Annexation Hearing

The Senate Environment and Land Use Committee, chaired by Sen. Charlie Ringo (D-Beaverton), heard six annexation bills last Monday that would restrict or eliminate city authority to annex. The committee includes Senators Jason Atkinson (R-Grants Pass), Roger Beyer (R-Mollalla), Ginny Burdick (D-Portland), Frank Shields (D-Portland).

City concerns were well represented, with officials from Prineville, Lake Oswego, Salem Albany, Corvallis, the Central Oregon Cities Organization (COCO) and the League testifying.

“State law requires us to maintain a 20 -year supply of vacant ‘buildable’ land for future residential, commercial and industrial development, said Salem Mayor Janet Taylor. “Some of these lands already lie inside our current city limits, but many lie outside. The effectiveness of our plans, however, depends on the city’s ability to annex these areas.”

“State law requires our city to plan and size its public service systems in accordance with our acknowledged comprehensive plan. But if we cannot control land development and service systems in our urban growth area, such planning may badly miss the mark.

“To suspend any type of annexation stateside for even a brief period of time would be costly and harmful to our cities,” Taylor concluded.

Chair Ringo challenged the assertions made by local government officials that cities are subsidizing services for residents in unincorporated areas, saying he has not a study that documents this.

Albany City Manager Steve Bryant provided background on the land use planning system and how it intersects with annexation authority.

“Over the past 30 years, Oregon cities have spent millions of public dollars meeting the requirements for comprehensive plans, periodic review and public facility plans.

Bryant also noted that despite these requirements, cities have been hamstrung by some of the nation’s most restrictive annexation requirements

Corvallis Councilor Trish Daniels and LOC’s Linda Ludwig strongly urged the committee to form a work group that would evaluate Oregon’s 13 methods of annexation and make recommendations to the next legislative session, instead of passing new restrictive legislation.

The League will continue to advocate for city authority as this issue is argued in the House and Senate.

Support for the bills was offered by Oregon Citizens for a Voice in Annexation and individuals who seek greater restriction on city annexation authority.

LOC would like to thank these city officials for testifying on this issue: Prineville City Manager Robb Corbett, Lake Oswego Councilor Jack Hoffman, Salem Mayor Janet Taylor, Corvallis City Councilor Trish Daniels, Albany City Manager Steve Bryant and Doug Riggs, representing the Central Oregon Cities Organization (COCO).

Annexation Bills

The following is an overview of the six annexation bills heard by the Senate Environment and Land Use Committee:

- SB 886 Requires public hearing prior to proposed annexation of territory by city without election
- SB 887 Deletes authority of city to annex by ordinance or resolution territory not within city but surrounded by corporate boundaries of city and body of water (island annexations)
- SB 888 Clarifies statutory provisions under which city within metropolitan service district may exercise jurisdiction in proceedings for annexation of territory to city and changes in city boundaries (further clarifies that cities within Metro may not utilize urban service provider annexations)
- SB 380 Requires majority of voters in territory proposed to be annexed and majority of voters in city or district annexing territory to approve annexation plan under which city or district may annex territory within urban growth boundary (urban service provider annexations)
- SB 732 Modifies requirements for industrial property that city may not annex without written petition for annexation from owner of property (Nike)
- SB 699 Prohibits annexation or incorporation of specified industrial lands without written consent of landowner (Boise Cascade)

So what do your lobbyists do all day anyway?

By Christy Monson, LOC Legal Counsel

While discussing our jobs recently during a spare 15 minutes on the sunny steps of the Capitol, a colleague and I concluded that, while other lobbyists rush to put out major forest fires (or start them, I guess, depending upon your perspective), much of a public sector lobbyist's time is spent running between and among a hundred campfires.

Below is a sketch of a typical day of in the life of an LOC lobbyist. We hope this little vignette will allow you a glimpse into life in Salem. Maybe it will even help you answer the biennial question, "So what the heck do my LOC lobbyists do all day anyway?"

6:30 a.m.: Double-check the schedule to confirm today's hearings. Check my appointments; plan the day.

8:00 a.m.: Attend a hearing on a licensing bill intended to streamline government processes. Talk with the bill's proponents about its relationship to another bill that would allow cities to offer extended licenses. Do the terms of the two bills conflict? The answer is unclear, but the threat to municipalities looks minimal. Bill is heard, but not yet moved out of committee. Will notify other city lobbyists for additional evaluation and circle back with the proponents tomorrow.

8:20 a.m.: Stopped in the hallway to talk with lobbyist who wants an interim workgroup to discuss newspaper notices. LOC will participate.

8:30 a.m.: Attend a hearing on a public contracting bill which looks as if it may have a bad effect on a city's ability to contract with engineers. Make a quick call to two city attorneys to confirm these suspicions. Am able to get a hold of someone – it's gonna be a good day! Experts agree with my analysis. Approach the bill's proponents and ask – carefully, carefully – if they'd allow amendments. Surprise--they're not opposed. I'm grateful to be working with reasonable people. It may very well be a good day.

8:50 a.m.: Intense discussion in the hall regarding a municipal court issue with a financial impact on cities. Tact and firmness definitely called for, hopefully achieved. As a result of this conversation, it is clear that we will need to get other local government partners involved to fix this problem. The next hour is spent circling the wagons and making a game plan with our partners.

10:00 a.m.: Basement of the Capitol: review about 50 new bills and consult with city officials and other lobbyists. Bills deal with anything from methamphetamine prosecution to the keeping of exotic animals to police officer safety.

11:00 a.m.: Pull a couple legislators of the floor to discuss a couple bills. Watch the lobby floor to see which lobbyists are talking with which legislators. Wish I could read lips. Marvel at the varying lobby styles. Do I look like *that* when I lobby? Remind self not to become a "close-talker." Pop a breath mint just to be sure I don't offend!

Noon: Arrive late to the LOC lobby staff meeting. Second time I've been late in a month. Does anyone notice? Discuss issues and offer to testify for an LOC colleague who is double-booked at 1:30 today on a bill I've not yet read, on an issue I'm completely unfamiliar with.

12:40 p.m.: Read and re-read the bill on which I'm going to testify at 1:30 today. Hope my colleague can teach me her arguments in the two minutes she has available to tutor me. Create a bill file for a state representative and equip it with all our arguments against a certain bill. He *said* he needed reading material for a long trip to Pendleton. On second thought, I should've thrown a funny novel or fluffy magazine in the folder too... oh well.

1:30 p.m.: Get the skinny on my colleague's bill and enter the committee hearing room only to find a Representative testifying convincingly and energetically *for* the bill we will be opposing. Sponsor of the bill sits on the committee. Hmmmm, this is not good. Testify on the bill and try to answer the committee's questions as best as possible. Unanticipated presence of a city official is a very welcome surprise. After discussions with committee members, I report to my colleague and she plans her going-forward strategy.

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.: Attend meetings with three legislative members on various bills. I approach a member to inform him that we support his bill and would like to help him with it. Stopped in the hall by another member to ask the LOC's position on a legislative proposal. We discuss. Spend time between meetings sitting in the halls, making calls. Chat with other lobbyists about Capitol happenings. Find out no crucial information; however, do overhear two lobbyists dishing on the ill-advised fashion choices of the rest of the lobby. Check my attire. They may have a valid point...

4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.: Back at the office. Answer e-mails and voice mails and input bills into our computer system. Some lobbyists would be preparing to go out for drinks or dinner with legislative members at this point in their day. Not me, not tonight. I'm heading home to try to answer the question, "So how was your day?"

(Water Rights Bill *continued from page 1*)

HB 3038 comes in the wake of a recent court decision that has thrown 95 years of municipal water development practices into jeopardy. Under this ruling, municipalities may be required to develop water rights within the first five years of obtaining them, although the rights were granted with the understanding that they would be grown into over a long period of time. Also in jeopardy are the newly-adopted permit extension rules, which are the result of a six-year negotiation. The new rules require substantial planning measures, conservation measures and restrict water available for development into 20-year increments.

The following senators and representatives signed on in support of HB 3038. City officials are encouraged to thank their legislators for supporting this bill:

Rep. Robert Ackerman (D-Eugene)
Rep. Gordon Anderson (R-Grants Pass)
Rep. Jeff Barker (D-Aloha)
Rep. Phil Barnhart (D-Eugene)
Rep. Vicki Berger (R-Salem)
Rep. Terry Beyer (D-Springfield)
Rep. Deborah Boone (D-Cannon Beach)
Rep. Brian Boquist (R-Dallas)
Rep. Alan Brown (R-Newport)
Rep. Scott Bruun (R-West Linn)
Rep. Chuck Burley (R-Bend)
Rep. John Dallum (R-The Dalles)
Rep. Sal Esquivel (R-Medford)
Rep. Debi Farr (R-Eugene)
Rep. Linda Flores (R-Clackamas)
Rep. Bill Garrard (R-Klamath Falls)
Rep. George Gilman (R-Medford)
Rep. Dave Hunt (D-Oak Grove)
Rep. Bob Jenson (R-Pendleton)
Rep. Derrick Kitts (R-Hillsboro)
Rep. Betty Komp (D-Woodburn)
Rep. Wayne Krieger (R-Gold Beach)
Rep. Jeff Kropf (R-Salem)
Rep. Jerry Krummel (R-Wilsonville)
Rep. John Lim (R-Gresham)
Rep. Steve March (D-Portland)
Rep. Mary Nolan (D-Portland)
Rep. Arnie Roblan (D-Coos Bay)
Rep. Michael Schaufler (D-Happy Valley)
Rep. Greg Smith (R-Heppner)
Rep. Kim Thatcher (R-Salem)
Rep. Carolyn Tomei (D-Milwaukie)
Rep. Gene Whisnant (R-Sunriver)
Rep. Kelley Wirth (D-Corvallis)
Rep. Brad Witt (D-Clatskanie)

Sen. Jason Atkinson (R-Grants Pass)
Sen. Alan Bates (D-Ashland)
Sen. Ginny Burdick (D-Portland)
Sen. Richard Devlin (D-Tualatin)
Sen. Ted Ferrioli (R-John Day)
Sen. Betsy Johnson (D-Scappoose)
Sen. Jeff Kruse (R-Roseburg)
Sen. Laurie Monnes Anderson (D-Gresham)
Sen. Bill Morrisette (D-Springfield)
Sen. Frank Morse (R-Corvallis)
Sen. David Nelson (R-Pendleton)
Sen. Frank Shields (D-Portland)
Sen. Bruce Starr (R-Aloha)
Sen. Charles Starr (R-Hillsboro)
Sen. Vicki Walker (D-Eugene)
Sen. Ben Westlund (R-Bend)
Sen. Jackie Winters (R-Salem)

Double Majority Bill to be Heard

On Monday the House Elections and Rules Committee, chaired by Rep. Derrick Kitts (R-Hillsboro) will hold a public hearing on HJR 14 double majority, on Monday March 21 at 1:00 p.m. in hearing room A of the Capitol. The Resolution waives the double majority requirement for property tax measures for the May and November elections every year. The Resolution is sponsored by Rep. David Hunt (D-Clackamas), Sen. Frank Morse (R-Corvallis) and Sen. Richard Devlin (D-Tualatin).

New Faces

(the final installment in our series on legislators serving in their first session)

Representative Peter Buckley, District 5



Rep. Peter Buckley (D-Ashland) is the executive director of Democracy's Edge, a non-partisan, non-profit organization created to increase electoral participation. Rep. Buckley, who has worked in management for various non-profit organizations for over 20 years, moved from California to Ashland in

1997. In California, he served as a member of the Arcata City Commission. This session, Rep. Buckley is vice chair of the House General Government Committee and a member of the House Trade and Economic Development Committee. District 5 includes a portion of Jackson County and Ashland, Jacksonville, Medford, Phoenix and Talent.

Representative Brian Boquist, District 23



Rep. Boquist (R-Dallas) is a Reserve Special Forces Lieutenant Colonel who was serving in Iraq one year ago as the deputy commander and chief of staff of the Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force. Rep. Boquist has a bachelor's degree in social science and business administration from Western Oregon State College, and an master's in business administration Oregon State University. He is the executive vice president and partner of International Charter Inc. of Oregon, an international aviation and transportation small business located in Salem. Rep. Boquist is serving as vice chair of the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee and as a member of the House Revenue and Veterans' Affairs Committees. His district includes portions of Benton, Linn, Marion, Polk and Yamhill Counties, and the cities of Dallas, Falls City, Halsey, Harrisburg, Jefferson, Monroe, Sheridan and Willamina.

Wyden and Smith Support Cities in CDBG Victory

In a major victory for cities across the nation, the U.S. Senate approved an amendment to restore Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding by a 66-31 vote on Thursday. Oregon's Senators Ron Wyden and Gordon Smith cast their votes in support of cities.

"Winning this vote was the result of the hard work and lobbying of local officials from across the country," stated League President and Corvallis Mayor Helen Berg. "The League extends its thanks to Senators Ron Wyden and Gordon Smith for their support of this vital economic development tool."

Berg had just returned from leading a delegation of Oregon city officials to Washington D.C. to meet with our congressional delegation and join with 2,500 city officials to advocate for CDBG and other issues vital to our nations communities.

President Bush had proposed major cuts to the program and removing it from HUD.

The House also voted this week to pass a budget resolution 218-214 that includes the addition of \$1.1 billion for CDBG and report language that would keep it in HUD. There was no separate vote in the House on the CDBG issue.

Selected Bill Summaries

The following are bills of city interest. Summaries are included weekly to outline the issues that may be discussed in hearings during the session.

The bills are categorized by city concern, using the League's standing and issue committee titles. The bill's number is followed by an identifying title and a summary of the salient features.

BUDGET BILLS

HJR 26 State appropriation limit: Proposes amendment to Oregon Constitution to limit amount of appropriations by Legislative Assembly to no more than 10.25% of previous biennium. Defines "appropriation". Excludes shared revenue distributions but caps those distributions at no more than 10.25% of the previous biennium's amount. (By Committee on Judiciary)

ENERGY

SB 511 School district energy audits and low-income electric bill assistance: Changes expenditures to be made from electric utility public purpose charge moneys. (By Sen. Deckert)

SB 527 Relating to energy facility sites: Requires applicant for energy facility site certificate to obtain land use approval from local government. Requires DOE to generate environmental impact statement. Allows site certificate to be granted only if applicant can show need for generating capacity. Requires disclosure of financial ability and criminal history by applicant. (By Reps. Garrard, Barnhart; Sens. Morrisette, Whitsett)

SB 671 PUC acquisition standards: Establishes standards that Public Utility Commission must find are met in order for persons seeking to acquire control over public utilities to obtain commission approval for acquisition. (By Sen. Metsger)

SB 735 Small scale local energy project definition: Modifies definition of "small scale local energy project." Allows project that reduces amount of energy needed for construction and operation of facility to meet definition. (By Committee on Environment and Land Use)

SB 736 Site certificate exemption for sustainable energy sources: Allows exemption to energy facility site certificate requirement for energy facilities using oil seeds, waste vegetable oil or cellulosic biomass as source of material for conversion to liquid fuel. (By Committee on Environment and Land Use)

SB 737 State operation of electric facilities: Allows state agencies and Oregon Department of Administrative Services to construct and operate facilities for generation of electricity. (By Committee on Environment and Land Use)

SB 834 Community Renewable Energy Project Fund: Establishes Community Renewable Energy Project Fund. (By Sen. Nelson)

HB 3135 Energy facilities site certificate: Requires applicant for energy facility site certificate to obtain land use approval from local government. (By Reps. Barnhart, Garrard et al; Sens. Whitsett, Morrisette)

FINANCE & TAX: LIDS/EZS

HB 3039 Enterprise zone wages: Requires firm to pay 150 percent of the county average wage and provide benefits and prevailing wage on construction projects to qualify for zone exemptions. (By Rep. Holvey)

HB 3143 Enterprise zone expansion: Eliminates economic hardship requirements that areas must meet to be designated enterprise zones; eliminates limit on number of zones; eliminates 10 year maximum duration of zone designation; allows sponsor to establish additional requirements for extensions. (By Rep. Bruun, et. al)

FINANCE & TAX: LOCAL FINANCE

HB 2911 Audit threshold: Increases threshold amounts a municipal corporation may receive and spend before a municipal corporation must obtain annual audit and review, from \$150,000 to \$250,000. (By Rep. Esquivel, et. al)

HB 3326 Business license veterans waiver: Requires waiver of local government business license fees for veterans. (By Committee on Veterans Affairs)

FINANCE & TAX: PROPERTY TAX

HB 2047 Public/Private Energy Intangibles: Exempts from property taxation intangible property of energy marketing companies that operate or purchase energy from electric generation or distribution facilities owned by qualified government entities. (By PPM Energy)

HB 2832 Renovation special assessment: Provides special assessment for property tax purposes for certain renovations of residential property. (By Reps. Dallum, Boquist, Whisnant)

HB 2844 Interest on veterans' property tax: Limits interest that may be charged on delinquent property taxes imposed on property of members of organized militia called into active service. (By Committee on Veteran's Affairs)

HB 2865 Veterans homestead exemption: Increases exemption amount and maximum income threshold for veterans' homestead property tax exemption. (By Committee on Veterans' Affairs)

HB 3030 Biofuels exemption: Expands property tax exemption for ethanol production facilities to include biofuel production facilities, including oil seed crushing facilities. (By Reps. Dingfelder, Kropf)

HB 3095 Veterans' deferral: Permits individual ordered to active military service to elect to defer property taxes for period of time individual is performing active military service, regardless of income. (By Rep. Hunt, et. al)

HB 3147 Kindergarten tax: Implements constitutional amendment that authorizes school district to impose property taxes for kindergarten that are not limited by existing constitutional limits on property taxes. See companion bill, HJR 37. (By Rep. Ackerman, et. al)

HB 3308 Veterans exemption expansion: Expands eligibility for property tax exemption for veterans to include homesteads of all war veterans, without regard to disability or income level, and their surviving spouses. (By Rep. Nelson)

HJR 35 School taxes: Proposes revision to Oregon Constitution that directs Legislative Assembly to provide for establishment of general system of public schools. (By Reps. Nolan, et. al)

HJR 37 Temporary school taxes: Proposes amendment to Oregon Constitution to permit school districts to impose temporary property taxes that would not be subject to constitutional property tax limits in order to fund kindergarten classes. (By Rep. Ackerman, et. al)

FINANCE & TAX: URBAN RENEWAL

HB 2964 School Construction through tax increment financing: Allows school district taxes imposed on new development to be utilized for school construction in the area which the tax is imposed, beginning July 1, 2007. (By Reps. Whisnant, Burley)

HB 3056 Muni approval of urban renewal: Requires approval of urban renewal plan by each city or county with tax revenues that will be reduced upon adoption of urban renewal plan. (By Rep. Holvey)

HEALTH INSURANCE

HB 2006 Copay assessment: Imposes a 25 cent assessment on each copayments charged or collected by health care providers or insurers to fund local mental health services. (By Reps. Kitts, Greenlick)

HB 2913 Prohibits group health insurers from imposing treatment limitations, limits on total payments or financial requirements on coverage for chemical

dependency, including alcoholism, and for mental or nervous conditions unless similar limitations or requirements are imposed on coverage of other medical conditions. (By Reps. Hunt, Tomei, Barker, Boone, Flores and other)

LAND USE

HB 2963 Requirement for 20 year supply for industrial and commercial land: Requires local government with urban growth boundary to provide for and maintain long-term and short-term supplies of land within urban growth boundary for industrial or commercial use. (By Rep. Garrard)

SB 413 Non-conforming use status for electric utility transmission lines: Authorizes alteration of nonconforming electric utility transmission line and associated structures and improvements when necessary to ensure safe operation or to meet additional demand for capacity in area served by transmission line. (By Central Electric Cooperative)

SB 887 Repeal of island annexation authority: Deletes authority of city to annex by ordinance or resolution territory not within city but surrounded by corporate boundaries of city or surrounded by corporate boundaries of city and body of water. (By Senator Ringo)

PERS

HB 3262 Military calculation: PERS member who acquires retirement credit for active service in Armed Forces may elect to have service retirement allowance determined under any calculation for which person is eligible, even if calculation does not produce largest service retirement allowance. (By Rep. Kropf for Elizabeth Poecker)

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

HB 3353 Ban on city telecom fees and taxes: Prohibits local government from imposing fees or taxes, except privilege tax and franchise fees, upon telecommunications providers unless authorized by statute. (By Rep. Butler)

WORKERS COMP

SB 311 Limits travel requirements for workers comp medical exams: Requires Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services to adopt rules specifying limitations on travel for workers attending required medical examinations for workers' compensation claims and requiring distribution of educational materials about examination process to workers by insurers and self-insured employers. (By Sen. Comm. on General Government)

Hearing Schedule

All hearings are held at the Capitol unless otherwise noted

Monday, March 21, 2005

Re: SB 348. Partition allowance for certain Multnomah county property

Where: 50 - House Land Use Committee

Time: 1:30 P.M.

Re: SB 820. Health insurance to children

Where: HR B - Senate Health Policy Committee

Time: 1:00 P.M.

Re: SB 5511. DOE spending limits

Where: H-174 - Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources

Time: 1:00 P.M.

Re: SB 5517. Bureau of Labor and Industries Budget

Where: HR F - Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development

Time: 1:00 P.M.

Re: HB 2082. 404 assumption for DSL

Where: HR 357 - House Water Committee

Time: 1:00 P.M.

Re: HB 2176. Brownfield redevelopment fund

Where: 343 - House Trade and Economic Development Committee

Time: 8:30 A.M.

Re: HB 2527. Converts Manufactured Structures and Parks Advisory Board to regulatory board

Where: HR B - House Business, Labor and Consumer Affairs Committee

Time: 8:30 A.M.

Re: HB 5014. Department of Consumer and Business Services Budget

Where: HR F - Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development

Time: 1:00 P.M.

Re: HB 5032. DOGAMI Budget Bill

Where: H-174 - Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources

Time: 1:00 P.M.

Re: HJR 14. Double majority

Where: HR A - House Revenue Committee

Time: 1:00 P.M.

Tuesday, March 22, 2005

Re: SB 82. Land use planning program review

Where: HR 343 - Senate Environment and Land Use Committee

Time: 7:00 A.M.

Re: SB 493. Red light running for bicycles

Where: 343 - Senate Judiciary Committee

Time: 1:00 P.M.

Re: SB 666. Prescription substitutions

Where: HR D - Senate Human Services Committee

Time: 3:00 P.M.

Re: SB 671. PUC acquisition standards

Where: HR B - Senate Business and Economic Development Committee

Time: 1:00 P.M.

Re: SB 912. Meth immunity

Where: HR C - Senate Commerce Committee

Time: 3:10 P.M.

Re: SB 938. Bicycle exclusions

Where: 343 - Senate Judiciary Committee

Time: 1:00 P.M.

Re: SB 975. Bans public funds spent to deter or encourage union organizing

Where: HR C - Senate Commerce Committee

Time: 3:10 P.M.

Re: SB 983. Protect vulnerable from telephone cutoff

Where: HR B - Senate Business and Economic Development Committee

Time: 1:00 P.M.

Re: SB 5515. Housing and Community Services Department

Where: HR F - Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development

Time: 1:00 P.M.

Re: HB 2504. Moves primary to September

Where: HR E - House Elections and Rules Committee

Time: 1:00 P.M.

Re: HB 5026. DEQ Budget

Where: H-174 - Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources

Time: 1:00 P.M.

Re: HB 5059. PERS expenditure limitation

Where: H-174 - Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on General Government

Time: 8:30 A.M.

Re: HB 5069. ODOT budget

Where: HR F - Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development

Time: 1:00 P.M.

Wednesday, March 23, 2005

Re: SB 291. Access to containers
Where: HR B - Senate Environment and Land Use Committee
Time: 3:00 P.M.

Re: SB 423. Waterways exemption
Where: HR B - Senate Environment and Land Use Committee
Time: 3:00 P.M.

Re: SB 838. Oregon Innovation Council
Where: HR D - Senate Education and Workforce Committee
Time: 3:00 P.M.

Re: SB 850. Substitute addresses
Where: 343 - Senate Judiciary Committee
Time: 1:00 P.M.

Re: SB 5508. OECD budget
Where: HR F - Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development
Time: 1:00 P.M.

Re: HB 2171. Sanitary survey fee
Where: HR 357 - House Water Committee
Time: 1:00 P.M.

Re: HB 2234. Electronic commerce zones
Where: HR A - House Revenue Committee
Time: 1:00 P.M.

Re: HB 2643. Secondary land and other exclusions
Where: 50 - House Land Use Committee
Time: 1:30 P.M.

Re: HB 2755. Partitions/ utility easements
Where: 50 - House Land Use Committee
Time: 1:30 P.M.

Re: HB 2776. Historic Property
Where: HR A - House Revenue Committee
Time: 1:00 P.M.

Re: HB 5073. WRD Budget
Where: H-174 - Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources
Time: 1:00 P.M.

Thursday, March 24, 2005

Re: SB 119. Preferred Worker program changes
Where: HR C - Senate Commerce Committee
Time: 3:10 P.M.

Re: SB 171. Small facility regulation exemption
Where: HR B - Senate Business and Economic Development Committee
Time: 1:00 P.M.

Re: SB 311. Limits travel requirements for workers comp medical exams
Where: HR C - Senate Commerce Committee
Time: 3:10 P.M.

Re: SB 339. Physicals for claimant in motor vehicle accident
Where: HR C - Senate Commerce Committee
Time: 3:10 P.M.

Re: SB 374. Colorectal cancer screenings
Where: HR D - Senate Human Services Committee
Time: 3:00 P.M.

Re: SB 386. WC disability claim termination
Where: HR C - Senate Commerce Committee
Time: 3:10 P.M.

Re: SB 434. Subpoenas by Bureau of Labor and Industries
Where: HR C - Senate Commerce Committee
Time: 3:10 P.M.

Re: SB 489. Repeals PUC orders to circuit court
Where: 343 - Senate Judiciary Committee
Time: 1:00 P.M.

Re: SB 750. Contraceptives for Non-Contraceptive Purposes
Where: HR D - Senate Human Services Committee
Time: 3:00 P.M.

Re: SB 5512. GERT budget
Where: H-174 - Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on General Government
Time: 8:30 A.M.

Re: HB 2911. Audit threshold
Where: Jackson County Central Library, Medford - House General Government Committee
Time: 7:00 P.M.

Re: HB 5029. ODF&W budget
Where: H-174 - Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources
Time: 1:00 P.M.

Re: HB 5056. State Parks and Recreation Department Budget
Where: H-174 - Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources
Time: 1:00 P.M.

Re: HB 5074. OWEB Budget
Where: H-174 - Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources
Time: 1:00 P.M.