2019 Legislative Summary

Genoa Ingram, Executive Director
October 2019
# Table of Contents

SESSION OVERVIEW ................................................................................................................................. 1  
LEADERSHIP FOR THE SESSION ........................................................................................................... 2  
LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS ..................................................................................................................... 2  
KEY DATES ............................................................................................................................................. 2  
VETOED BILLS ....................................................................................................................................... 2  

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION ................................................................................................................... 3  
  9-1-1 .......................................................................................................................................................... 3  
  AMBULANCE SERVICE ............................................................................................................................ 3  
  CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS ............................................................................................................... 4  
  ELECTIONS .............................................................................................................................................. 5  
  EMS/EMTs ............................................................................................................................................... 5  
  ENTERPRISE ZONES ............................................................................................................................... 5  
  ETHICS ..................................................................................................................................................... 6  
  FIRE SUPPRESSION/FORESTRY .............................................................................................................. 6  
  HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES ................................................................................................................... 7  
  LABOR/WORKERS’ COMPENSATION ...................................................................................................... 8  
  LAND USE/ANNEXATION ....................................................................................................................... 8  
  PERS ....................................................................................................................................................... 8  
  PUBLIC CONTRACTING .......................................................................................................................... 10  
  PUBLIC CONTRACTS ............................................................................................................................... 10  
  PUBLIC RECORDS ................................................................................................................................. 10  
  PUBLIC SAFETY .................................................................................................................................... 11  
  REVENUE AND TAXATION ................................................................................................................... 11  
  STATE AGENCY BUDGETS ..................................................................................................................... 12  
  TRANSPORTATION ............................................................................................................................... 13  
  URBAN RENEWAL ............................................................................................................................... 13  
  VOLUNTEERS ...................................................................................................................................... 13  
  WORKERS’ COMPENSATION .................................................................................................................. 13
Session Overview

80TH OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

The 80th Oregon Legislative Assembly convened on January 22, 2019. The November elections set the stage for a robust agenda for the Democratic Party, having gained supermajority status in both chambers. The Democrats gained one seat in the Senate for an 18–12 majority and three seats in the House for a 38–22 majority. The supermajority meant that the Democrats could easily pass any tax or fee increase (which requires a three-fifths majority) simply by having all caucus members on board.

The Governor based her 2019-21 budget on the November 14, 2018, Revenue Forecast by the Office of Economic Analysis. That forecast anticipated a slowdown but did not call for a recession. At that time, the projected 2017-19 net General Fund Resources were up $59.5 million (0.3%) from the September forecast while the projected 2017-19 Lottery resources were up $16 million (1.1%). The combined net General Fund and Lottery resources were up $75.5 million (0.3%) from the June forecast. Marijuana tax proceeds were up $81.4 million in 2017-19. And, with personal income tax revenue up $675.3 million (3.8%) from the Close of Session (COS) estimate and corporate tax revenue up $229.6 million (21.3%) from the COS forecast, both the personal and corporate kickers were expected to “kick”.

Mid-session, on May 15, economists released the end-of-session revenue forecast $737 million in additional revenues following a "historic" increase in income tax collections. Part of those funds were the result of the passage of HB 3427, the modified Corporate Activities Tax (mCAT). The $2 billion tax package for K-12 schools, dubbed the Student Success Act, prompted a walk-out by Senate Republicans, denying the Democrats a quorum. The Republicans ultimately returned to the Floor after receiving assurance that SB 987, relating to gun control, and HB 3036 requiring mandatory vaccines, would not move forward. Following release of the May forecast, Senate Republicans attempted to have HB 3427 pulled back to the Senate Floor for additional modification, as allowed by Senate Rule. That motion failed.

A second walkout occurred on June 20 when HB 2020, relating to Cap and Trade, was scheduled to be heard in the Senate. The bill would have compelled companies and polluters to purchase credits on a market in exchange for each emitted ton of carbon. All eleven Republican State Senators again exited the Capitol for nearly ten days, returning on June 29, just hours before final adjournment. By that time, Senate President Peter Courtney (R-Salem) had announced that the Democratic caucus lacked the number of votes to support the bill. HB 2020 was referred to the Rules Committee where it remained until close of session.
LEADERSHIP FOR THE SESSION  
Governor: Kate Brown, Democrat

Oregon State Senate: 18 Democrats; 12 Republicans

- Senate President: Peter Courtney (D) SD 11
- President Pro Tempore: Laurie Monnes Anderson (D) SD 25
- Senate Majority Leader: Ginny Burdick (D) SD 18
- Senate Republican Leader: Herman E. Baertschiger Jr. (R) SD 2

Oregon House of Representatives: 38 Democrats; 22 Republicans

- Speaker of the House: Tina Kotek (D) HD 44
- Speaker Pro Tempore: Paul Holvey (D) HD 8
- House Majority Leader: Jennifer Williamson (D) HD 36
- House Republican Leader: Carl Wilson (R) HD 3

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

Following is a summary of the legislative proposals introduced in each chamber during the 80th Oregon Legislative Assembly for the Regular Session.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>House</th>
<th>Senate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Legislation Introduced</td>
<td>1,582</td>
<td>1,186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislation Enacted</td>
<td>425</td>
<td>392</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of Measures Passed</td>
<td>26.9 percent</td>
<td>33.1 percent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Secretary of the Senate and Chief Clerk of the House

KEY DATES

**Legislative Days 2019**  
September 16, 17, 18  
November 18, 19, 20

**Final Economic Forecast**  
November 20, 2019

**VETOED BILLS**  
(Line Item Vetoes)

**HB 5050** The Governor vetoed a provision in HB 5050 (the “Christmas Tree” bill) that would have provided $500,000 to the Association of Oregon Counties to issue grants for eastern Oregon counties to plan expansions of cities’ urban growth boundaries. Governor Brown believes that a state agency should handle that process.

**HB 2377** The Governor vetoed the portion of HB 2377 that would have cut $5 million in funding for the Oregon Medical Board’s rainy day fund.
Summary of Legislation

9-1-1

HB 2391 – REQUIREMENT TO DISPLAY 911 EMERGENCY NUMBER
Did Not Pass
HB 2319 would have required that public or private safety agency to display a message listing the three digit 9-1-1 emergency number on websites or printed materials that list contact phone number for agency and are intended for general public use, viewing or distribution. The bill did not meet the April 9 work session deadline and will not move forward.

HB 2449 – 911 TAX INCREASE
Effective date January 1, 2020 Chapter 653, (2019 Laws)
HB 2449 increases the 911 surcharge which had not been increased since the early 90s (with the exception of the addition of wireless devices being subject to the surcharge in 2005). OFDDA provided supporting testimony for the bill which, as passed, accomplishes the following:

- Increases the 911 tax by 25 cents on 1/1/2020.
- Increases the 911 tax by another 25 cents on 1/1/2021.
- Decreases the Office of Emergency Management administrative fee from 4 percent to 2.4 percent on January 1, 2021.
- Decreases the Department of Revenue administrative fee from 1 percent to 0.6 percent on January 1, 2021.
- Extends the sunset until December 31, 2019 (an eight year sunset extension).

Because the bill raised revenues, it required a three-fifths majority vote.

Ambulance Service

HB 2620 – FIRE DISTRICTS TO COORDINATE AMBULANCE SERVICE
Did Not Pass
HB 2620, which would have authorized cities and rural fire protection districts to adopt plans to provide ambulance and emergency care services, did not pass.

HB 3307 – APPLICATION OF GEMT TO PRIVATE TRANSPORT PROVIDERS
Did Not Pass
HB 3307 was brought forward by the Oregon Ambulance Association as a priority bill to address the application of the Ground Emergency Medical Transport (GEMT) to private providers.

Background: In 2016, Oregon passed HB 4030, the GEMT (Ground Emergency Medical Transport) bill. The bill was championed by Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue and the Oregon Fire Chiefs Association and supported by the Oregon Fire District Directors Association, the Oregon State Ambulance Association, and others. The intent was for EMS
providers to access higher Medicaid reimbursements through GEMT. However, the CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) only approved the program for public providers. Since the Oregon State Ambulance Association is an association of public, private, non-profits, volunteer, and hospital based providers, the OSAA wanted to provide a level playing field for all providers. To that end, the association introduced legislation, patterned after California's law, to allow all providers to participate in a program that would allow access to the higher reimbursement that was intended under GEMT.

Had it passed, here is how HB 3307 would have worked:

- Participating providers (non-public entities) would have paid a 5% fee on all of their emergency transports—roughly $34/call.
- 10% of that fee would have remained with the state:
  - Half would have gone to OHA to administer the program (about $300k/year).
  - The other half (about $300,000 per year) would have gone into a separate fund that the CCOs could access via grants to help fund innovative ambulance projects, like community paramedicine or mobile integrated health.
  - Importantly, these funds would not have been restricted as to the kinds of providers that are able to access them. So, even though all of the money in the fund will be supplied by non-public providers, CCOs could choose to use the money to pay for an innovative ambulance program that is run by a public provider (i.e. fire districts or departments).
- The rest of the money would have gone to the federal government to receive a match, which would then be distributed through the CCOs to the participating providers via higher Medicaid reimbursements. Modeling shows that it would have worked out to be roughly an additional $287/Medicaid call.

The Oregon Fire District Directors Association submitted an amendment to HB 3307 to remove fire districts from having to pay the fee and participate in the program since they already have access through GEMT. Fire departments are already exempt for the same reason.

Charitable Organizations

**SB 360 – NON-PROFIT CORPORATIONS UPDATE**

*Effective Date: May 24, 2019*  
*Chapter 174 (2019 Laws)*

SB 360 updates laws on governance of nonprofit corporations and provides for electronic communication and notice. The bill specifies the process for taking action through electronic means and provides definitions relating to shell corporations. Specifically, the bill sets out a process for court determination that a corporation is a shell entity and attaches liability for losses created by a shell corporation. It also specifies that no corporation may be formed for an illegal or fraudulent purpose.
Elections

SB 761 – ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE SHEETS
Effective Date: January 1, 2020
ORS 250.052(6) currently requires the Secretary of State to prepare an official electronic template of a signature sheet for each state initiative, referendum, and recall petition. This statutory subsection requires that the sheet allow space for the signature of one elector and authorizes an elector to print out the sheet, sign it, and deliver it to the chief petitioner. SB 761 requires electors to certify that electronic signature sheet was printed by the elector or specifically for the elector at the elector's request. It also requires the sheet to include the full and correct copy of underlying measure. Electronic petitions have become a popular tool for campaigns collecting the signatures needed to overturn laws passed by the Legislature, recall elected officials, or put initiatives on the ballot. Opponents argue that SB 761 will place an undue burden on initiatives and referendums.

HB 2279 – PRIMARY ELECTION DATE
Did Not Pass
HB 2279 would have changed the date of the primary election from the third Tuesday in May to the second Tuesday in March.

EMS/EMTs

HB 3307 – FEES ON EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE
Did Not Pass
HB 3307 would have assed fees on emergency medical service providers to increase assessed reimbursements paid by the Oregon Health Authority for emergency medical services, specifically for the cost of transport by ambulance. The Oregon Health Authority's Public Health Division was first organized in 1983 to license all ambulances operating in the state. The original annual licensing fee was $45 per ambulance. Licensing and operation standards for basic and advanced life support ambulances were developed by the Public Health Division in cooperation with the State Emergency Medical Service Committee and the Ambulance and Emergency Medical Technician Advisory Council. Annual licensing fees were increased about ten years later through Senate Bill 95 in 1994, with the assistance of a task force, to $250 for services with five or more full-time paid employees and $75 for services with four or fewer full-time paid employees.

Enterprise Zones

HB 2782 – CONSULTATION WITH PUBLIC SAFETY ENTITIES
Did Not Pass
HB 2782 would have required, for purposes of extending tax benefits to enterprise zones, rural renewable energy development zones, and long-term tax incentives for rural enterprise zones beyond three years, the enterprise zone sponsor to consult with public safety agencies within whose boundaries any portion of tax-benefited property of business firm is located before entering into written agreement with business firm. The bill, which
was introduced at the request of Rep. Greg Smith (R-Umatilla, Morrow, Gilliam, Sherman & Wasco Counties) was referred to the House Committee on Economic Development where it received no hearings.

**HB 2806 – DEFINITION OF “ELIGIBLE BUSINESS FIRM”**  
*Did Not Pass*

**HB 2806** would have expanded the definition of "eligible business firm" to include business firms engaged in providing services to the general public as medical clinics, health care facilities, substance abuse treatment providers, or alcohol or drug rehabilitation centers for the purposes of qualifying for enterprise zone benefits.

**Ethics**

**HB 2096 – ATTORNEY FEES IN ETHICS CASES**

*Effective Date: September 29, 2019  Chapter 116, (2019 Laws)*

**HB 2096** allows courts to award reasonable attorney fees and costs to a petitioner if the court finds in favor of the petitioner in a contested case hearing against the Oregon Government Ethics Commission (Commission). It is completely at the court’s discretion. The bill also allows for partial awards or withholding of attorney fee awards if the court finds that the Commission proved its actions were substantially justified or special circumstances make an award of attorney fees unjust.

Several other bills relating to ethics were introduced but did not pass. Those were:

- **HB 2097** would have permitted the Oregon Government Ethics Commission to issue commission advisory opinions, staff advisory opinions, and written or oral advice on interpretation of lobbying laws.
- **HB 2277** would have revised and clarified circumstances in which individuals, including public officials and elected public officials, must register with Oregon Government Ethics Commission and file a lobbyist registration statement.
- **HB 2708** would have required the statement of economic interest to include certain information about sources of income for businesses in which public officials or candidates, or a member of the household of the public official or candidate, is an officer or holds directorship if source of income has legislative or administrative interest and 10 percent or more of total gross annual income of the business comes from that source of income.
- **SB 659** would have required the Oregon Government Ethics Commission to issue commission advisory opinions in response to a written request relating to events that have already occurred.

**Fire Suppression/Forestry**

**SB 771 – ENDORSEMENT PROGRAM FOR CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS**  
*Did Not Pass*

**SB 771** would have required the Construction Contractors Board (CCB) to establish endorsement program for construction contractors and employees engaging in work on
water-based fire suppression systems. Current statewide building codes require the installation of an automatic fire sprinkler system in specified structures, including most commercial structures, multi-family residential structures, and one- or two-family dwellings containing a sleeping loft. Fire sprinkler systems must meet standards established by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). The NFPA, the National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies, and other organizations offer certifications for the design, inspection, testing, and maintenance of water-based fire protection systems.

SB 771 would have mandated the establishment of an endorsement program for contractors and employees engaging in work on water-based fire suppression systems. The endorsements would have been tailored to the type of structure, and the contractor or at least one full-time employee of the contractor would have been required to hold the appropriate endorsement before engaging in work on a water-based fire suppression system. The measure would have allowed existing contractors who demonstrate competency to the CCB to continue work for three years under a temporary endorsement.

**SB 568 – TAX CREDIT FOR REFORESTATION**  
*Did Not Pass*  
SB 568 would have established a tax credit for reforestation of commercial forestland following loss from a catastrophic fire event that occurred during fire loss years that begin on or after November 1, 2018, and end on or before October 31, 2024. The tax credit would have been available for up to three tax years after the year in which State Forester could issue a preliminary certificate for loss and would have been based on a percentage of the net reforestation costs.

**HB 2073 – PRIVILEGE TAX ON FOREST PRODUCTS**  
*Effective Date: September 29, 2019  Chapter 647, (2019 Laws)*  
HB 2073 extends privilege taxes on merchantable forest products harvested on forestlands for two years. Charges are based on thousand board feet (MBF). Monies go to the Oregon Protection Fund, OSU Research, Forest Practices, and Oregon Forest Research Institute. Because the bill raises revenue, a three-fifths majority vote was required.

**HB 2222 – FORESTLAND-URBAN INTERFACE FIRE PROTECTION ACT**  
*Effective Date: May 22, 2019  Chapter 136, (2019 Laws)*  
HB 2222 requires State Forestry Department to annually report to Legislative Assembly or interim committee regarding implementation and enforcement of property notifications and certifications required under Oregon Forestland-Urban Interface Fire Protection Act.

**Hazardous Substances**

Three bills were introduced to address oils spills during rail transport. All three bills failed:
- HB 2858 would have directed the Environmental Quality Commission to adopt rules applying certain oil spill prevention and emergency response planning requirements to high hazard train routes in the state.
- SB 99, the Senate version of HB 2858, would have directed the Environmental Quality Commission to adopt rules applying certain oil spill prevention and emergency response planning requirements to high hazard train routes in the state.
- SB 229 would have directed the Office of State Fire Marshal to include training in plan for coordinated response to oil or hazardous material spills or releases that occur during rail transport.

**Labor/Workers’ Compensation**

**SB 507 – PTSD PRESUMPTION**
*Effective Date: September 29, 2019*  
*Chapter 372, (2019 Laws)*

SB 507 represents a compromise reached between the Special Districts Association of Oregon, the OFDDA and the proponents of SB 507 relating to the PTSD presumption. The bill will not affect current claims, but will apply to claims filed after the effective date of the bill (90 days following signature by the Governor). Other sideboards are included in the compromise. Joint testimony on behalf of SDAO and OFDDA was presented by Hasina Wittenberg on May 1 advocating for the amendments to the bill, encapsulating the compromise.

**Land Use/Annexation**

**HB 2469 – FORESTLAND DWELLINGS**
*Effective Date: January 1, 2019*  
*Chapter: 315, (2019 Laws)*

SB 92 authorizes cities to provide for as much as a 20-year ramp-up to full taxation for properties in annexed territories. ORS 222.750, known as the "island annexation statute," currently allows a city to annex a territory that is surrounded by the corporate boundaries of the city, or by the corporate boundaries of the city and the ocean shore, a river, creek, bay, lake, or Interstate Highway 5 following a properly noticed public hearing. SB 92 authorizes a city to provide for as much as a 20-year ramp-up to full taxation rate for property in an annexed territory and, for purposes of "island annexation," would allow the corporate boundaries of another city to constitute part of the boundary of the territory to be annexed.

**PERS**

**SB 1049 – PERS Reform**
*Effective Date: June 11, 2019*  
*Chapter 355, (2019 Laws)*

SB 1049 represents the "PERS Reform Package." Under the bill, Tier 1 and Tier 2 Unfunded Accrued Liabilities are re-amortized, on a one-time basis, from 20-years to 22-years after which point the amortization schedule for these two benefit plans revert to 20-years. The measure adds assets to the system by dedicating all net lottery revenues from sports betting games revenue to the Employer Incentive Fund. The corresponding employer match is indeterminate at this time until the amount of sports betting games net lottery revenue deposited into the fund becomes known.
The measure appropriates $100 million of General Fund, on a time base, for expenditure into the Employer Incentive Fund. The corresponding employer match up to 75% is assumed to be at least $400 million for a total increase in assets of $500 million. The measure provides for $100 million of Other Funds expenditure limitation for the Fund. PERS will need to request additional Other Funds or Lottery Funds expenditure limitation depending upon the availability of sports betting revenue as well as the timing of employer matching funds in order to expend funds out of the Employer Incentive Fund.

Once matched, Employer Incentive Funds will be expended to fund lump sum employer side accounts, which are separately budgeted as Nonlimited Other Funds expenditures. The Department of Administrative Services is requested to unschedule $75 million of the General Fund appropriation, which may be scheduled once employer matching funds become available and upon the approval of the Legislative Fiscal Office.

The measure directs the Public Employees Retirement Board to allow participating employers making certain lump sum payments to choose the starting date for the amortization period for use of a lump sum payment to offset contributions to the system. At least one large public entity anticipates making a $10 million side account contribution under this authority.

The measure includes two provisions that impact employee retirement benefits: a re-direct of a portion of an employee's defined benefit contribution and a limitation on the Final Average Salary used to calculate the Full Formula Plus Annuity and Full Formula benefits.

The measure redirects a portion of employee contributions from an employee's defined contribution plan, the Individual Account Program, to partially fund an employee's defined benefit or pension plan ("Employee Pension Stability Account"), if the PERS funded status is less than 90% funded and if an employee's earnings is more than $2,500/month or approximately $30,000 per year. Moneys in an employee's Employee Pension Stability Account are ineligible for the Money Match benefit. Redirected funds reduce the defined contribution benefit of an employee but are then used to partially fund an employee's defined pension benefit. Redirected funds lower or offset the employer contribution. Employees have the option to voluntarily contribute into their IAP account the amount of redirected funds on an after-tax basis.

The redirect for each benefit plan, which begins on July 1, 2020, are as follows:

- Tier One: 2.5% of PERS-eligible salary and wages
- Tier Two: 2.5% of PERS-eligible salary and wages
- Oregon Public Service Retirement Plan: 0.75% of PERS-eligible salary and wages.

The measure places a limit on the Final Average Salary of $195,000 for Tier 1, Tier 2, and OPSRP employees retiring under Formula Plus Annuity and Full Formula benefit plans. The $195,000 cap is indexed to inflation on an annual basis.
Public Contracting

HB 2094 – DELINQUENT STATE DEBTS
Effective Date: September 29, 2019  Chapter: 124, (2019 Laws)
HB 2904 permits a contracting agency to consider at any time before executing a public contract with the bidder or proposer whether bidder or proposer owes liquidated and delinquent debt to the state.

SB 471 EN – CONTRACTOR DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICT MINERALS
Effective Date: September 29, 2019  Chapter: 294, (2019 Laws)
SB 471 EN requires a prospective contractor to state in their bid or proposal for public contract whether and extent to which the prospective contractor will use conflict minerals in performing public contract and whether prospective contractor's disclosures, policies, practices, and procedures with respect to procuring conflict minerals comply with Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development's Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas.

Public Contracts

HB 2769 EN – PRICING CONSIDERATIONS IN CONTRACTOR PROCUREMENTS
Effective Date: September 29, 2019  Chapter: 55, (2019 Laws)
HB 2769 permits contracting agency, in conducting procurement for architectural, engineering, photogrammetric mapping, transportation planning, and land surveying services, to consider pricing policies, proposals, and other pricing information as part of the screening and selection of consultants in specified circumstances.

Public Records

HB 2353 EN – PENALTIES ON PUBLIC RECORDS REQUESTS
Effective Date: June 4, 2019  Chapter: 205, (2019 Laws)
HB 2353 authorizes the Attorney General, district attorney, or court to award penalty to a public records requester, or order a fee waiver or fee reduction, if public body responds to the request with undue delay or fails to be responsive to request.

HB 2430 EN – PUBLIC RECORDS ADVISORY COUNCIL SUNSET DATE
Effective Date: January 1, 2020  Chapter: 107, (2019 Laws)
HB 2430 eliminates sunset date of Public Records Advisory Council.

SB 845 – MEETING NOTICE REQUIREMENTS
Did Not Pass
SB 845 modifies public meeting notice requirements for meetings held in executive session.
Public Safety

HB 2206 EN – BUILDING EVALUATION AFTER EMERGENCY  
Effective Date: January 1, 2020  
Chapter: 649, (2019 Laws)  
HB 2206 EN directs State Fire Marshal to develop and administer program to evaluate the condition of buildings after an emergency and determine whether buildings may be safely occupied.

HB 2780 – FIRE DEPARTMENT UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS  
Did Not Pass  
HB 2780 would have allowed fire departments to operate unmanned aircraft systems and acquire and disclose information through such operation for purposes of emergency incident response.

HB 3167 – FIRE MARSHAL GRANT AGREEMENT  
Did Not Pass  
HB 3167 would have directed the State Fire Marshal to enter into grant agreement with Eugene Springfield Fire to enable development of urban search and rescue capabilities.

SB 694 – COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AFTER NATURAL DISASTERS  
Did Not Pass  
SB 694 would have established the Task Force on Rural Fire Protection District Community Development to study and develop recommendations for developing, enhancing, or expanding the ability of rural fire protection districts to facilitate community development efforts following a natural disaster.

Revenue and Taxation

SB 1028 – JOSEPHINE COUNTY GRANTS  
Did Not Pass  
SB 1028 would have appropriated moneys to Department of State Police for 2019-21 biennium for the purpose of allowing the State Fire Marshal to issue grants to rural fire districts that are newly formed within Josephine County.

HB 2359 – TAXATION OF HIGH-RISK DISTRICTS  
Did Not Pass  
HB 2359 would have required counties at higher risk of financial distress to withhold from taxing districts the costs to county of assessing property and collecting property taxes.

HB 2522 – INCOME TAX CREDITS  
Did Not Pass  
HB 2522 would have created an income tax credit for taxpayers that purchase certain emergency preparedness supplies.
HB 3123 A – COST OF BONDS ASSESSMENTS  
*Did Not Pass*

**HB 3123 A** would have provided that certain public bodies and intergovernmental entities may not issue bonds to finance pension liabilities without first obtaining independent assessment of likelihood that the investment returns on bond proceeds will exceed interest cost of bonds and issuing public report relating to proposed bond issuance.

HB 5005 EN – AUTHORIZED AMOUNTS FOR BONDS  
**Effective Date: August 9, 2019**  
**Chapter: 661, (2019 Laws)**

**HB 5005** establishes amounts authorized for issuance of general obligation bonds, revenue bonds, certificates of participation, and other financing agreements for biennium.

HJR 11 – MAXIMUM ASSESSED VALUE OF PROPERTY  
*Did Not Pass*

**HJR 11** proposed an amendment to the Oregon Constitution providing that, for purposes of ad valorem property taxation under Ballot Measure 50 (1997), property that is subject of sale or other transfer shall have maximum assessed value equal to property's real market value, only for first tax year that begins after sale or other transfer becomes final.

State Agency Budgets

HB 5530 EN – OREGON STATE POLICE/OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL  
**Effective Date: July 15, 2019**  
**Chapter: 479, (2019 Laws)**

**HB 5530** appropriates moneys from General Fund to Department of State Police for biennial expenses. The budget for the Office of the State Fire Marshal is included. This year’s appropriation increased the “Other Funds” expenditure limitation by $3,600,000 for emergency response vehicles and equipment replacements in the 2019-21 biennium. The Petroleum Load Fee is levied on importers and sellers of petroleum products in Oregon. The revenue supports the Regional Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Team (RHMERT) program, which supports thirteen hazardous materials response teams throughout the state by providing equipment and vehicles used for emergency response. **HB 5530** added $840,000 in revenue by increasing the petroleum load fee to $9 per load (from $8 per load) on July 1, 2019, and to $10 per load on July 1, 2020.

HB 5533 – DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY STANDARDS AND TRAINING  
**Effective Date: July 15, 2019**  
**Chapter: 479, (2019 Laws)**

**HB 5533** appropriates moneys to the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training. DPSST supports the Oregon Department of Forestry when the Governor mobilizes the Oregon National Guard. At the request of the Oregon Department of Forestry, DPSST provides wildland firefighter training to members of the National Guard being mobilized to assist with fire suppression efforts across the state. Fire program employees also participate in and respond as part of the State Fire Marshal’s Incident Management Team. The program is funded primarily through the Fire Insurance Premium Tax (FIPT), a 1.15 percent surcharge on all fire insurance policies written in the State of Oregon. The Oregon
Fire Chiefs Association, the Oregon Fire District Directors Association, and the Oregon Volunteer Firefighters Association all presented testimony in support of the budget.

Transportation

**SB 528 EN – ROADSIDE MEMORIAL SIGNS**
*Effective Date: January 1, 2020*  
*Chapter: 298, (2019 Laws)*

SB 528 EN directs Department of Transportation to erect and maintain roadside memorial signs for firefighters killed in line of duty. Sen. Betsy Johnson (D-Scappoose) introduced the bill for the family of Robert Hale, a volunteer firefighter who died of a heart attack on August 17, 2008, after responding to a call and fighting lightning strike fires for twelve hours.

Urban Renewal

**HB 2174 – URBAN RENEWAL**
*Effective Date: September 29, 2019*  
*Chapter: 580, (2019 Laws)*

HB 2174 requires that, for urban renewal plans proposed on or after the effective date of the Act, that include public building projects, concurrence of at least three of four taxing districts estimated to forgo most property tax revenue under proposed plan.

Volunteers

**HB 2138 – SUNSET TAX CREDIT SUNSET EXTENSION**
*Did Not Pass*

HB 2138 extends sunset for tax credit for provision of volunteer emergency medical services in rural area.

**SB 290 EN – IMMUNITY FROM CIVIL LIABILITY**
*Effective Date: January 1, 2020*  
*Chapter: 245, (2019 Laws)*

SB 290 EN makes a person voluntarily fighting wildfire immune from civil liability for injury resulting from good faith performance of firefighting efforts.

Workers’ Compensation

**SB 507 EN – COMPENSABILITY OF EMPLOYEE CLAIMS**
*Effective Date: September 29, 2019*  
*Chapter: 372, (2019 Laws)*

SB 507 EN specifies certain presumptions as to compensability of covered employee's claim of benefits under workers' compensation law for death, disability, or impairment of health.