

IN THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LANE COUNTY, OREGON

ORDER NO.
09-4-15-13

I IN THE MATTER OF ADOPTING POSITIONS ON
I LEGISLATIVE ISSUES DURING THE 75TH
I LEGISLATIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, Lane County has a keen interest in state legislative activities, and;

WHEREAS, Lane County Government employs an Intergovernmental Relations Manager for the purpose of advocating on behalf of Lane County government at the Oregon Legislature, and;

WHEREAS, the Lane County Board of County Commissioners wishes to communicate their positions on legislative issues to the public and other elected officials, and;

WHEREAS, the Legislative Committee is the established standing committee which exists to fully inform the Lane County Board of Commissioners in a timely fashion on legislative issues, and;

WHEREAS, it has previously been resolved that the Legislative Committee will forward its recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners for final approval by the Board of County Commissioners on an as-necessary basis.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Lane County Board agrees to the slate of positions illustrated in Attachment A, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Board Order will officially represent the will of the Board of County Commissioners and may be used by the Intergovernmental Relations Manager to communicate their position to Oregon legislators during the 75th Legislative session.

DATED this 15th day of April, 2009



Pete Sorenson, Chair
Lane County Board of Commissioners

Attachment A
 Lane County, Oregon
 Board of County Commissioners
 Spreadsheet for Legislative Review
 75th Oregon Legislature
 April 15, 2009

Item #	Priority # (1-3)	House-Senate	Bill #	Reviewer	Recommendation	Bill Summary
1	1	House	3023	Urecht	Oppose	Requires health benefit plans and health insurers to allow dependents to continue coverage past age limit for dependent coverage in plan or policy under specified conditions.
2	1	Senate	225	Smith	Support	Requires juvenile court to schedule trial or hearing if person at least 13 years of age and less than 21 years of age receives second citation for attempting to purchase alcohol or for purchasing, acquiring or personally possessing alcohol. Revises language to insert references to existing driving privilege suspension requirements.
3	1	House	3214	Spickard	Support	Authorizes counties to recover costs of property assessment and tax collection from taxing districts. Sets limit of two percent of tax distribution that counties can withhold. Prohibits withholding from tax distributions for bonded indebtedness. Phases in provisions over four years.

4	1	Senate	794	Richardson	Support	Provides that defendant in condemnation action may not recover attorney fees from condemner unless amount of just compensation assessed by verdict exceeds highest written settlement offer submitted by condemner before filing of action.
5	1	House	2396	Spartz	Support	Authorizes issuance of lottery bonds to finance extension of bus rapid transit system in west Eugene. Creates West Eugene EmX Extension Fund. Continuously appropriates moneys in fund to Economic and Community Development Department. Directs department to use moneys in fund to finance costs incurred by Lane Transit District to establish West Eugene EmX Extension.
6	1	House	3418	Rockstroh	Oppose	Requires Department of Human Services to develop payment system to promote health care delivery through integrated health homes for medical assistance recipients. Requires department to create Integrated Health Home Collaborative Program pilot project for testing new system for payment to fee-for-service primary care providers. Declares emergency, effective on passage.
7	1	House	3292	Burger	Monitor	Establishes Insurance Surcharge Public Safety Fund. Establishes surcharge on property and motor vehicle insurance policies issued in this state to be credited to fund. Continuously appropriates moneys from fund to Oregon Criminal Justice Commission for disbursement to local governments for purposes of public safety.

8 1 House 2973 Blackburn **Oppose**
Modifies authority for issuance of bonds by public bodies. Requires voter approval for public body to issue general obligation debt. Specifies that school district may not pledge full faith and credit and taxing power of state. Specifies bonds of school district for which State Treasurer may issue certificate of qualification for state guaranty.

9 1 House 3411 McKenzie-Bahr **Oppose**
Establishes mandatory grounds for denial of tax credit certification for erection, construction, installation or acquisition of certain large renewable energy facilities with project costs of \$5 million or more. Requires that such facilities be in continuous operation for at least five years after facility is placed in operation. Allows State Department of Energy to decline to issue tax credit preliminary certification based on specified criteria. Allows State Department of Energy to treat multiple applications for tax credit preliminary certification as single application for specified purposes if department finds that applications are for facilities that are in such close proximity, or so closely related, as to constitute single facility.

10 2 House 3122 Rockstroh **Support with Amendment (State provide funding for inspections)**
Allows holder of full on-premises sales license or limited on-premises sales license to obtain verification of capacity of pint glasses used at licensed premises for draught malt beverages. Allows holder to obtain display sticker from Oregon Liquor Control Commission if glasses at premises hold pint of malt beverage under standard conditions.

11 1 House 3022 Rockstroh **Support**
Authorizes practitioner to prescribe antibiotic drug to patient for use by patient and each sexual partner of patient to treat gonorrhoea and chlamydia.

12 1 Senate 159 Rockstroh Support
Authorizes certain public officials to inspect and obtain information pertinent to investigation of communicable disease. Protects confidentiality of information obtained during investigation. Allows release of information about communicable diseases if necessary to protect public health. Provides immunity from civil and criminal liability that might arise from providing information for investigation.

13 1 House 2122 Rockstroh Monitor
Increases tax on cigarettes and other tobacco products. Distributes tax revenues from increase. Applies tax increase to cigarette and tobacco products reporting periods occurring on or after January 1, 2010, or first day of calendar month following effective date of Act.

14 1 Senate 971 Burger Support
Requires employees who voluntarily leave employment with certain governmental agencies to reimburse certain training costs. Instructs employing agency and Department of Public Safety Standards and Training to adopt schedule for reimbursement of training costs. Allows employing agency to provide hardship exemptions to mandatory reimbursement.

15	1	House	2398	Forster	Support	Requires adoption of standards for certain workforce development plans and submission of plans by local workforce investment boards to State Workforce Investment Board. Instructs Employment Department to provide assistance to local boards in development of plans. Requires Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development to fund programs to reestablish summer work experience for certain persons, to establish short-term workforce transition centers and to train skilled workers and retirees to become college level instructors.
16	2	House	2749	Forster	Support	Increases amusement device tax to fund Oregon Youth Conservation Corps. Applies to tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2010, and devices that begin operating on or after July 1, 2010.
17	1	Senate	734	Utecht	Monitor	Requires certain health insurers to cover tobacco use cessation programs.
18	2	House	2136	Rockstroh	Monitor	Prohibits sale or distribution of tobacco products from vending machines.

19	1	House	3005	McKenzie - Bahr	BCC approved "Support" on 04/08/2009	Appropriates moneys to State Department of Agriculture for 2009-2011 biennium to develop business plan for project to produce energy from agricultural sources and from food or other wastes.
20	1	House	3253	McKenzie - Bahr	BCC approved "Support" on 04/08/2009	Establishes tax credit for plug-in electric drive motor vehicles.

Staff's Analysis

This bill would mandate that employers offer former dependents under the age of 30 the ability to continue to self-pay for health insurance coverage until they reach the age of 30. Increase administration time due to managing duplicate benefits with different rules. The reality is that due to the cost of premiums, I don't think many former dependents age 23 to 30 will take advantage of this option. However, the ones that do will undoubtedly incur health costs in excess of the cost of the premiums they pay.

SB 225 would require that a trial or hearing be scheduled for juveniles who receive a second citation for minor in possession of alcohol. If convicted, the juvenile will have their driving privileges denied for one year or until the youth reaches the age of 17 whichever is longer.

HB 3214 charges an administrative fee to all of the tax districts to pay a share of the cost for A&T so it isn't all on the county general fund to provide tax collection services.

Allows staff to continue to try and come to a resolution as more information is collected.

Allows LTD to utilize \$30 million in State Lottery funds for the west Eugene extension on EMX. Over a twenty year period the cost would be approximately \$60 million. The project improves transit for Lane County but reduces our access to lottery funds.

Promotes integrated health homes and creates a pilot project to test fee-for-service reimbursement for primary care providers (not defined) who participate in the new system. Very visionary language on providing "ideal" medical services.

Adds a surcharge, not stated, on every insurance policy for property or motor vehicles issued in this state. The proceeds can be used by grants to local government for the purpose of enhancing public safety.

As written, would require voter approval to issue bonds backed by the full faith and credit of the County. Also makes changes to debt issuance for education districts.

As written, would require voter approval before the County could issue bonds (such as the planned issuance this year for the Charrelton project). Voter approval has historically been difficult for the County to obtain, and capital improvement projects would likely be stopped completely due to lack of funding.

Passage of this bill will reduce the amount of the Oregon tax credit currently available for renewable energy projects by 50%. It also amends current criteria for the tax credit to give state staff more discretion in deciding what projects will or will not get the credit.

This will increase the uncertainty if a project will qualify, thus increasing project risk and probably reducing the number of projects.

With the increased rates of gonorrhea and chlamydia this would help in getting contacts of cases treated. The bill would help both private medical providers and public health in treating ~~the~~ contacts.

This bill would make it easier for our public health investigating c. diseases in relation to inspect information sources pertinent to the investigation. Right now, we often get a denial from providers to give us the information needed to complete the investigation.

This is the Governor's cigarette/tobacco tax bill to pay for health services and senior transport. Of all the tobacco bills this year, this is the one we feel should get the most energy since it states clearly some funding goes to public health. None of the other bills explicitly says funds to go to public health - and public health is where the prevention effort is at and why the tobacco use in the state is going down.

Provides for reimbursement of the employer if a new employee leaves your employment prior to a specified time period. Previously these costs were often lost and incurred by the employer. This bill would provide for up to 100% reimbursement by the employee or the new employing agency under certain conditions. (BOLI law does not allow us to withhold these type of reimbursements from an employee's final pay. This would also impact hiring decisions, because the County may be required to reimburse another agency's training cost.)

This bill recognizes the need build a pipeline of skilled workers to keep Oregon's businesses competitive.

Overall, OYCC is a good program. For example, Looking Glass and Northwest Youth Corps both received OYCC funding. Many youth serving agencies count on OYCC funding as a source of support for work experience for young people. And work experience provides the opportunity for the development of work readiness skills that set the foundation future job success.

This bill would require all health benefit plans to provide payment, coverage, or reimbursement of at least \$500 toward tobacco use cessation programs for persons 15 years or older.

Tobacco vending machines are currently legal in Oregon in bars (or other places where minors are restricted), hotel/motel lobbies, and manufacturing plants. Allowing minors easy access to tobacco is inconsistent with Oregon's values. One effect of the law will be to reduce minor's exposure to both cigarettes and secondhand smoke. Banning cigarette vending machines is a positive next step to reducing youth access to tobacco and promoting smokefree environments.

This bill is to assist with funding of a business plan for a grass straw to energy project in Lane County. This bill will help speed up the process of bringing renewable energy projects to Lane County.

The key part is a tax credit for the owner of the car that ranges in \$7,500 to \$15,000 (depending on weight of car) and "Have been assembled in this state. This bill is to support purchases of electric cars made in Oregon through additional tax credits.