ASSOCIATED OREGON INDUSTRIES

AOI is a member-driven advocacy organization, working for sound public policy on behalf of the business community. Founded in 1895, AOI is Oregon’s largest comprehensive statewide business association, made up of 1,500 member companies of all types, sizes, and in every corner of the state, providing 200,000 jobs for working Oregonians. AOI advocates aggressively and professionally in the State Legislature, agencies, and other entities to protect and advance the interests of Oregon business.

AOI Guiding Principles

The AOI’s 52-member Board of Directors has adopted a set of Guiding Principles to be used to guide the association’s strategy, policy and planning work in advancing AOI’s Mission.

**Strong Oregon**
We actively encourage investment in Oregon, and support those businesses that employ our state’s citizens.

**Engaged Membership**
We are member-owned, member-driven and member engaged, developing policy through active participation with our members.

**Strategic Action**
We prioritize our actions in the context of the AOI long-term strategic agenda and seek comprehensive, strategic and well-thought out solutions.

**Economic Development & Job Creation**
We initiate and support policies leading to a vigorous economic climate which is competitive and provides quality jobs for all Oregonians.

**Quality Education & Training**
We initiate and support policies leading to a well-educated, trained and employable citizenry.

**Reasonable, Collaboratively-Developed Regulation**
We encourage and support collaborative development of appropriate and fact-based regulation.

**Efficient Government**
We promote and support policies which increase government efficiency, accountability, and measurable outcomes on behalf of the citizens which government serves.

**AOI also works for Oregon businesses through state and national affiliations**

AOI is the Oregon Manufacturer’s Association and the Oregon affiliate for the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM).

AOI is the Oregon affiliate for the Council of State Manufacturing Associations (COSMA).

AOI is the Oregon Retail Council and the affiliate of the National Retail Federation, the world’s largest retail trade Association, and is a member of the Council of State Retail Associations (CSRA).

AOI works closely with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and is an active member of the Council of State Chambers (COSC).

AOI actively supports and works with BIPAC (Business & Industry Political Action Committee) on federal issues important to Oregon businesses.
The 2013 Legislative Session was long and hard fought. At session’s end, AOI was successful in not only getting several much needed pieces of legislation passed, but blocked scores of bills detrimental to your business and Oregon’s economy.

More than 2,700 bills were introduced, many threatening to place cumbersome, unfair roadblocks in your way discouraging expansion and job growth. There was no shortage of attempts to increase taxes, impose new unattainable regulatory burdens, and even ban some types of products.

There are good reasons for our success. Hundreds of AOI members are active on our public policy committees, sharing information and developing policy positions that reflect the views of Oregon’s business community. They communicated with legislators by personal visits, e-mails, phone calls, and appeared before committees.

Working closely with AOI members, AOI’s professional staff read and evaluated every bill, innumerable amendments, and countless legislative staff reports. Legislation was blocked, changed, or advanced by building effective coalitions, testifying before committees, mobilizing membership and in countless discussions with legislators and Executive Branch leaders. Our staff are recognized experts in their areas and have decades of experience. The information lawmakers get from AOI is objective, fact-driven, and effective.

The 2014 session is coming up fast and most of the problems currently facing us will still be with us. There will be the usual proposals, some good, some not so good. Everyone under the Capitol dome will have their solution. But in the end, the changes needed to restore Oregon to prosperity and fiscal responsibility can only come about through the growth and success of the business community. In the coming year, I suggest we focus on three primary goals:

- **Create and Retain Jobs.** The creation of employment opportunities must move back to center stage in the Legislature. Our unemployment is too high and a sense of urgency must be restored in Salem.

- **Increase Incomes.** Oregon’s mean individual income has, relative to the rest of the nation, steadily eroded over the last few decades. This is not a regional or unavoidable phenomenon: our neighboring state to the north has seen theirs increase. Oregonians, on average, are falling behind the rest of the nation and the Northwest. This must be reversed.

- **More economic growth and diversity.** Oregon’s economy not only needs to grow, it must diversify. That means not only attracting new industries and other businesses, it means retaining and supporting existing enterprises.

The key to attaining these goals can be summed up in one word: competitiveness. If allowed to do so, Oregon business people can successfully compete with any in the world and bring the promise of prosperity to every Oregonian. That is why business must take the lead in initiating reforms, proposing legislation, and finding rational solutions to the problems facing our state. We must continue to grow our ability to help elect legislators who understand and support business through our Political Action Committee and unite to counter organized and well-funded groups that promote polices that hurt business in Oregon. This is absolutely imperative if we want to see a more prosperous Oregon.

AOI’s success is due to you, the member. Joining with 1,500 other member companies, you help to make Oregon a better place to do business. Your membership and support is critically important and greatly appreciated.

Neil Nelson
Chairman, Board of Directors
Associated Oregon Industries
President & CEO, Siltronic Corporation

**AOI MISSION**

Committed to growing Oregon’s economy, quality jobs for our citizens and healthy communities, through strong advocacy of Oregon’s businesses.
EDUCATION & WORKFORCE

Education policy in the 2013 session focused on programs implementing the broad reforms enacted in 2011.

Some of the work of these reforms began in the 2012 session (Special Joint Committee on University Governance), but most of it fell to this Legislature to work through. Of particular interest to the business community were two bills relating to post-secondary governance. Reacting to a better than expected June revenue forecast, budgets for K-12, Community Colleges and the Oregon University System (OUS) were sufficient (depending on who was doing the talking), and the Governor’s strategic investments for 40-40-20 progress were also funded.

Good Bills Passed

SB 270A – Institutional Governing Boards. Enables creation of institutional governing boards at University of Oregon and Portland State, and sets out a process for other universities to set up similar boards if they wish.

SB 498 – Career and Technical Education. Puts $7.5 million in new money into the Career and Technical Education grant program; this program makes grants to high schools to support career and technical skill teaching and learning.

HB 2912A – Career and Technical Education. Creates short-term Career and Technical Education advisory committees to work on grants awarded under SB 498.

HB 3120A – Higher Ed Governance. Makes the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) the single point of authority for higher education in Oregon by merging existing authorities of the State Board of Education (for community colleges), the State Board of Higher Education for all seven universities, and the Oregon Student Access Commission. HB 3120 does not create a Department of Post-Secondary Education as proposed by the Governor’s budget, but instead leaves existing agencies in place to support the HECC.

HB 3232B – Specific Funding Increases. Provides additional state investments to impact education outcomes in three areas: the Oregon Early Reading Program; Support for Post-Secondary Aspirations; and Connections to the World of Work. The bill includes increased funding for STEM, STEAM and career technical education programs.

EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES

The onslaught of new proposed employment regulations and unlawful employment actions resumed again in 2013 after a brief hiatus during the 2011 Legislative Session.

At the outset of the 2013 Legislative Session, AOI tracked and worked over 70 pieces of legislation that would impact workplace laws. AOI actively opposed and lobbied in opposition to at least 25 of these bills. AOI kept a watchful eye on dozens of other bills to negotiate reasonable outcomes and ensure they did not disadvantage employers.

AOI came into the 2013 session with a proactive employment law agenda which included: (1) fixing the Oregon Appeals Court Decision in Cortez v. Nacco which stripped away workers’ compensation liability protections from owners and members of LLCs; (2) easing administrative burdens associated with Oregon’s Family Leave Act (OFLA); (3) giving Oregon employers the ability to implement electronic direct deposit payroll systems without requiring employee consent; and (4) repealing Oregon’s outlier 10-hour daily overtime rule for manufacturers. AOI passed two of these initiatives (see “Good Legislation Passed”).

On another positive note, the House Business Committee agreed to convene a work group over the legislative interim to study and make recommendations on easing employers’ administrative burdens stemming from administration of OFLA.

Good Legislation Passed

SB 678 – Restore Workers’ Compensation Liability Protections for LLCs. The biggest victory of the 2013 session – this AOI priority bill reinstates workers’ compensation liability protections for LLC owners and members. A 2012 Oregon Court of Appeals decision had made clear that LLC owners and members could be held personally liable for damages stemming from workplace injuries.

HB 2683 – Direct Deposit Payroll. Another AOI bill allowing employers to implement direct deposit payroll systems at employers discretion. Previous law required employers to obtain upfront consent from employees before implementing direct deposit.

Other Legislation Passed

SB 1 – Veterans Day Off. Requires employers to give their employees who are veterans option of taking a paid or unpaid day off on Veterans Day unless an employer can show undue hardship.

SB 191 – UI Claims. Authorizes the Employment Department to impose a penalty of up to 30% on overpayment of UI benefits due to false statement or misrepresentation of.

SB 192 – UI Claims. Requires a charge of benefits to employer’s account if employer fails to respond timely or adequately to request for information regarding a UI claim, and the failure causes overpayment of benefits. Applies only if the employer has a pattern of failing to respond timely.

SB 252 – Late payroll. Increases the minimum penalty for late filings of payroll and tax reports by employers to $100 for third or subsequent late filing within a three-year period.

SB 744 – Wage Equality. Requires BOLI to study issues of wage equality.

HB 2111 – Reconcile state and fed “disabled.” Makes Oregon’s determination of whether an individual is substantially limited in major life activities for purposes of being classified as “disabled” more consistent with federal law.

HB 2654 – Social Media Sealed. Prohibits employers from requiring employees to disclose login information to their social media accounts with some limited exceptions.

HB 2569 – Intern Rights. Grants limited workplace civil rights protections to interns, including discrimination and sexual harassment protections.

HB 2903 – Mandates Additional Accommodations. Requires an employer to provide reasonable accommodations for employees who are victims of domestic abuse, sexual assault, stalking and harassment upon the first day of employment if requested. The practical effect of this bill is the repeal of the 180-day employment waiting period for employees to be eligible for these accommodations.

HB 2950 – Unpaid Bereavement Leave. Two weeks of unpaid bereavement leave as a qualifying leave under Oregon’s Family Leave Act. To the best of our knowledge, Oregon is the first state to allow bereavement leave as a qualifying leave under the state’s family leave act.

AOI unites businesses from every corner of the state.
**LEGISLATION**

**Bad Legislation Blocked**

**SB 394** – Statute of Limitations Expansion. Increases the statute of limitations for Unlawful Employment Practice claims from one year to two years.

**SB 573** – Wage Claim Lien Expansion. Allows lien to be filed against employer property on the unsubstantiated allegation of a wage claim.

**HB 2112** – New BOLI Penalties. Deductions would have allowed BOLI to impose civil penalties of up to $1,000 for unlawful wage deductions. Employers are already subject to private right of action for such deductions.

**HB 2606** – Expands Discrimination Complaints. Extends time limit for filing a complaint or civil action for discrimination in employment, based on protected class status of employee from one year to two years.

**HB 2645** – BOLI-Run Paid Family Leave. Sets up a state-run paid family leave program within BOLI.

**HB 2675** – Expands Prevailing Wages. Requires prevailing wages to be paid on private projects in enterprise zones.

**HB 2677** – Expands Prevailing Wages. Requires prevailing wages to be paid on private projects which receive tax abatements or tax incentives.

**HB 2907** – Independent Contractors. Requires BOLI to establish one FTE position for an investigator to investigate misclassification of employees as independent contractors.

**HB 2976** – Mandating Wage Levels. Destroys business model of staffing companies by mandating wage levels and dictating the terms of a staffing company’s contract with its clients.

**HB 3026** – More Family Leave Time. Expands Oregon’s family leave law significantly by including siblings as family members for purposes of family leave.

**HB 3041** – Redundant Protections. Prohibits discrimination or retaliation against employees who express concerns about wage inequity based on sex – already law in two other statutes.

**HB 3042** – More Paycheck Discrimination Lawsuits. Allows paycheck discrimination lawsuits based on any protected class status. Current law already allows such claims, but this would have lowered the existing standard for proving paycheck discrimination and changed the burden of proof from employee to employer.

**HB 3138** – Expanded Wage Claims. Includes accrued vacation wages in meaning of wages for purposes of a wage claim.

**HB 3142** – Expanded Wage Claims. Changes the definitions of “employer” and “employee,” so as to include more employees under the definition of “employer” for purposes of expanding the number of people subject to a wage claim lawsuit.

**HB 3307** – Expanded Wage Claims. Allows wage claims and class action lawsuits based on any portion of any rest or meal break alleged not to have been taken by an employee.

**HB 3308** – Wage Claims. Prohibits retaliation against employees for engaging in certain actions related to wage claims.

**HB 3390** – Mandatory Paid Sick Leave. Also introduced as SB 801, mandates all Oregon employers with more than five employees offer a minimum paid sick leave policy of one hour per 30 hours worked. Although these bills did not survive, a work group will be established in the next several months to see if there is any appetite in the business community to support any version of this mandate.

**ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY**

*As usual in Oregon, there was a deluge of environmental and energy related bills, over one hundred, many focused on or affecting manufacturing. In the end, no environmental or energy bill opposed by AOI was enacted into law.*

Greenhouse gas reduction (GHG), either as a primary goal or a rationale to advance other agendas such as revenue generation, now permeates a wide range of topics including state procurement, tax policy, energy use and generation, transportation, and land use. This trend can be expected to continue in subsequent sessions. Only one GHG bill passed, SB 308A, which sets out the parameters and funding for a state study on the efficacy of a carbon tax. It was unopposed by anyone.

In some cases bad bills produced good results. In at least three hearings on (unsuccessful) bills proposing new water and air permitting requirements, AOI was able to use the opportunity to inform numerous legislators that industrial and other business sources are a fairly small and ever-decreasing source of toxic emissions, a point long valid but heretofore little known within the chambers.

Perhaps the most far reaching and hard fought measure was SB 488. Passage of this measure would have effectively told the DEQ to develop and impose what amounts to a Cap & Trade GHG system for gasoline and diesel, ultimately requiring the consumer to pay for imported ethanol and CO2 offset credits. Oregon would have been the sole state to join California in mandating these requirements. The measure was solidly opposed by nearly all major business groups and defeated. Other bills seeking to impose new requirements on water discharges (SB 523) and new requirements on air permitted facilities (HB 3492/HB 2336), and several bills imposing state environmental impact statements were all blocked after hearings.

Several AOI-endorsed bills or bills modified into acceptability passed and are either law or awaiting the Governor’s signature.

**Legislation Passed**

**SB 844A** – GHG. Directs PUC to establish a voluntary emission reduction program to incentivize public utilities that furnish natural gas to invest in projects that reduce emissions, and provide benefits to customers of public utilities that furnish natural gas.

**SB 306A** – C-Tax. Directs and funds the state to study efficacy of a carbon tax.

**SB 476A** – Clean-up (was state Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), original text replaced). Clarified prospective purchaser agreement statute to require DEQ to notify parties regarding consent agreement negotiations.

**Bad Legislation Blocked**

**HB 2237/HB 2791/SB 488** – Cap & Trade. Repeals 2015 sunset on DEQ’s authority to impose a Cap & Trade (aka, low carbon fuels) system in Oregon. In effect, directs the DEQ to impose program by rule.


**HB 2336** – New Air Permit Requirements. Imposes new, very stringent controls on about 100 Title V air permitted sources in Oregon.

**HB 2497** – Impose C-Tax. Establishes carbon tax on gasoline and diesel and utilities to fund state highway fund, school fund, and new renewable energy resources account.

**HB 2806** – GHG. Requires state agencies to report “carbon accountability” for their actions and rules.

**HB 3039** – GHG. Requires state to give edge to companies bidding on state contracts based on greenhouse gas emissions.

**HB 3454** – New Water Permitting Requirements. Removes most of DEQ’s water permitting authority – bans mixing zones.

**HB 3492** – New Air Permit Requirements. Imposes new reporting and other requirements on about 60 Title V air permitted sources.

**SB 438** – Manufacturing/Sales Bans. Requires manufacturer of product that is alternative to product containing hazardous substance to require the consumer to pay for imported product containing hazardous substance.

**SB 488/HB 2237/HB 2791** – Low Carbon Fuels Restrictions. Repeals 2015 sunset on DEQ’s authority to impose a Cap & Trade (aka, low carbon fuels) system in Oregon.

**SB 523** – “Buoy Bill.” Requires water quality permit holders to pay for installation and maintenance of marker systems – signs on land or buoys.
Other Legislation Failed

HB 2658 – Tax. Establishes income tax credit for creating jobs related to remediation and clean-ups.

HB 2713 – RPS. Makes hydropower a renewable resource for purposes of meeting the state’s Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS).


HB 2842 – Water Standards. State water quality standards to be no more stringent than federal.

HB 3030A – Clean-up. Provides DEQ grants, loans and assistance to local government to inventory and assess sites for possible Brownfield remediation.


SB 485 – Fees. Fees adopted by state agency do not become effective unless approved by Legislative Assembly by law.

FISCAL POLICY

Lots of swings. Lots of misses. For the business community, this wasn’t necessarily a bad outcome, as most of the legislative initiatives that enjoyed their brief time in the spotlight were adverse to Oregon employers and Oregon’s economy.

But the one initiative that the business community was seeking – PERS reform – ended with a fizzle as well. In the wake of no substantive PERS reforms, the pressure to fix PERS will only intensify as it eats up more and more of Oregon’s local school budgets, local service budgets, and public safety budgets – leaving vastly diminished schools and services in its wake over the next 25 years.

When the Legislature convened in January, it anticipated $16.5 billion in General Fund resources, over $1.5 billion more than the previous 2011-13 budget. With a beginning General Fund balance of nearly $200 million, this translated into $1.7 billion in additional resources.

Critical moments in Fiscal Policy occurred when SB 822A passed the Legislature on a party line vote and HB 2456A was defeated in the House. Democratic leaders proposed and passed SB 822 with the hope that it would be the only PERS reform bill needed this session. Dubbed the “PERS-lite” reform, AOI opposed this legislation, most notably due to the fact that the $350 million in delayed PERS payments would only exacerbate the PERS problem in the next biennium. Analysis by PERS actuaries showed that if SB 822 was the only PERS reform to pass, school districts would still see PERS rates rise to nearly 30% of payroll and remain there through 2029. Democratic leaders in the House followed up on SB 822 with an immediate attempt to raise taxes on Measure 66 & 67 taxpayers. All told, HB 2456 raised taxes by $275 million, but it never made it off the House floor. In an unusual move, when it was clear there were not enough votes to pass the taxes, the House opted instead to adopt a Republican “minority report” which allowed Oregon to begin to tax income of companies headquartered in designated “tax haven” countries.

End of Session Revenue Forecast predicted additional resources of $272 million. Legislators were now officially awash in new money to spend. In addition to the $1.7 billion in additional money anticipated at the beginning of session, the Legislature had another $810 million from SB 822 and now another $272 million from the May revenue forecast – a total of nearly $2.8 billion more to spend. Legislators used these resources to pass, among other things, a K-12 school budget of $6.75 billion, nearly $1 billion more than the previous 2011-13 budget.

In the last days of the session, the Governor proposed a “grand bargain” on PERS reform. The “grand bargain” was a straight-across-the-board exchange of $5 billion in PERS reform for $195 million in tax increases. This package was substantially diluted from a previously negotiated package that appeared poised for passage just a week earlier that contained nearly $6 billion in PERS liability reductions, nearly $225 million in new tax revenue and a small business tax cut for pass-through business entities (Schedule E filers) that reduced top rates for these businesses from 9.9% down to 7%. Although AOI supported both packages, the 14 Republicans in the Senate would not support additional taxes unless the small business tax cut was part of the deal. The taxes were necessary to secure Democratic votes on PERS reform. In the absence of the small business tax reduction, the “grand bargain” stalled and crashed.

AOI member companies are of all sizes reflecting the makeup of Oregon’s business community. Almost 80% of AOI member companies have 50 or fewer employees.

New Legislation

SB 822A – “PERS-lite.” Reduces PERS unfunded liability by $2.6 billion and saves $460 million this biennium, mainly through reductions to retiree Cost of Living Adjustments (COLAs). Another $350 million in biennial savings was achieved by directing the PERS Board to defer payment of employer rate increases for two years.

HB 2460B – “Tax Haven” Inclusion. Requires corporations filing Oregon tax return that includes a corporation that is a member of unitary group and incorporated in certain countries that are considered “tax havens” to include net income from those countries on the Oregon return. Estimated to increase tax revenue by $18 million for the 2013-15 biennium.

HB 3367B – Tax Credit Extensions. Extends a handful of key tax credits including the earned income tax credit, political tax credit, cultural trust, pension income, rural EMT, rural medical practice, and employer scholarship tax credit. It increased the film and video tax credit from $6 million to $10 million per year. The interesting aspect of this bill is that Democratic lawmakers tested a theory of adding small tax increases into a bill with substantial tax credits to avoid needing a 3/5th vote to pass the tax increases. Republicans in the Senate formally protested this aspect of the bill, but ultimately backed off further protest due to the inconsequential nature of the tax increases contained in the bill.

Bad Legislation Blocked

HB 2305A – Corporate Revenue Forecast. Changes state corporate revenue forecast by legislative fiat, effectively over-ruled the informed estimate of the state economist with a political calculation. This bill underscores a trend toward legislative subterfuge as it pertains to raising taxes and revenue.
The Oregon Health Authority saw a budget increase of 21% this session, most of which is directed at the upcoming expansion of the Oregon Health Plan to 138% of the federal poverty level. This expansion will provide coverage to 180,000 to 260,000 more Oregonians starting next January. Under the Affordable Care Act, the cost for new health plan recipients will be covered by federal dollars through 2017. Most of this money will go to Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs), which are expected to provide the bulk of the care for Medicaid recipients.

Good Legislation Passed
HB 2091A – Child Health Care. Updates the Health Care for All Oregon Children Program to reflect federal requirements. Transitions children under 300% of federal poverty level (FPL) to the Oregon Health Plan and phases out Healthy Kids Connect program. Ends Healthy Kids Connect (HKC) and transitions the HKC children to the Oregon Health Plan, starting in October 2013 for newly eligible kids and taking one year for transition of current enrollees.

HB 2216B – Hospital Tax. Extends the Hospital Tax to fund the Oregon Health Plan.

HB 2240A – Insurance Law Reconciliation. Implements federal requirements in Oregon’s insurance code and abolishes programs which are rendered obsolete by the ACA.

Phases out the Office of Private Health Partnerships (OPHP) and the Family Health Insurance Assistance Program (FHIAP). Clients will transition to Medicaid or to the private plans offered in Cover Oregon:
• Completes changes to the Insurance Code needed to complete the state health care transformation started in 2009 as it impacts insurance;
• Provides authority to Department of Consumer Business Services (DCBS) to make future changes necessary to reflect guidance and regulations received from federal agencies related to implementation of the ACA;
• Makes changes to the Insurance Code necessary to reflect federal requirements under the ACA.

Bad Legislation Passed
SB 365B – New Coverage Mandate. Deals with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) in three ways: mandates insurance coverage of Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) treatment; creates the Behavior Analysis Regulatory Board (BARB) within the Oregon Health Licensing Agency (OHLA) to license practitioners; and requires that the Health Evidence Review Commission (HERC) evaluate

AOI member companies include manufacturers, service providers, professional firms, agriculture and forestry all working together to advance Oregon business.

www.aoi.org
ABU as a treatment for ASD. PEBB and OEBB must cover ABA beginning January 1, 2015 and all other carriers by January 1, 2016. Sunsets mandate on January 2, 2022.

HB 2902B – Nurse Practitioner Reimbursements. Requires insurance companies to reimburse nurse practitioners and physicians’ assistants at the same level as doctors when performing the same services. The bill would not apply to Medicaid clients, but would apply to the commercial insurance plans purchased by most employers in Oregon.

HB 2385A – New Coverage Mandate. Requires insurers to cover court-ordered chemical dependency treatment, which usually results from a DUII conviction.

Legislation Failed

SB 413B – Premium Rate Review. Under current Oregon law, in order to determine approval of a health insurance premium rate change, the Department determines whether a carrier’s proposed rates are actuarially sound; reasonable and not excessive; inadequate or unfairly discriminatory; and based upon reasonable administrative expenses. SB 413B requires that:
- Rating factors which are currently permissive be considered in review process;
- Insurers inform the public on the review process in all communications;
- Rates reflect the carrier’s cost containment efforts;
- Rate proposals be in line with an established medical trend.

SB 457 – Coverage In Clink. Prohibits insurer from denying health coverage for services provided to a person in the custody of a county sheriff.

HB 3309A – Coordinated Care Organization Member Expulsion. Proposes to give Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs) a way to punish a provider or entity who may not agree with the majority of the CCO Board. Specifically, this bill would allow a CCO to petition the Oregon Health Authority to remove a member of their board by a two-thirds vote.

RETAIL

Retailers this session had to contend with a wide variety of proposed regulations on issues ranging from E-911 fees to Bottle Bill changes, with energy efficiency and debtor-creditor bills in between.

Most of these bills were modified to make them workable for retailers, and a handful were left on the cutting room floor when the Legislature went home.

Legislation Passed

SB 117A – Bottle Bill. Imposes new requirements on retailers subject to Oregon’s Bottle Bill. Requires retailers within a 3-mile radius of a bottle bill redemption center to opt into using the center and pay a portion of the operating costs, or opt out and meet specific standards for number of bottles redeemed per customer per day, number of reverse vending machines provided, etc.

HB 2714 – Pharmacies. Allows pharmacies to perform certain diagnostic tests.

HB 2048B – Paint. Removes the sunset on the architectural paint stewardship pilot program.

HB 3317B – Extends sunset on current 911 fees, with directions to consider a point of sale option in 2014.

Bad Legislation Blocked

HB 2175 – GMO. Mandates labeling requirements on foods that contain or are produced using genetically engineered material.

HB 2278 – Tires. Imposes fee on retail sale of studded tires and on installation of studs in tires.

HB 2331 – Soft Drink Tax. Imposes excise tax on sale of sugar-sweetened beverages and concentrates.

HB 2398 – Self Checkout Restrictions. Prohibits sale of certain consumer goods by self-checkout device.

HB 2532 – GMO. Mandates labeling requirements on foods that contain or are produced using genetically engineered material.

HB 2928 – Labeling. Modifies definition of hazardous substance, required Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to adopt new labeling standards for hazardous substances.

HB 2938 – Battery Recycle Mandate. Requires retailers and manufacturers to participate in Call2Recycle battery recycling program (or form their own program meeting impossibly high standards) or pay civil penalties.

SB 113 – Bag Ban. Prohibits use of single use checkout bags except in certain cases.

HB 2826A – Imposes new requirements under which debtor could bring legal action to collect debt.

HB 3162C – Materials Ban. Requires manufacturers, including many retailers, to report to the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) on products containing substances on a list to be created by the OHA. Such chemicals would have been required to be phased out within five years, and failure to do so could have resulted in product bans and fines.

TRANSPORTATION

Although there was much discussion about mileage-based car taxes, vehicle smog checks in Portland and Medford, and studded tires, the I-5 Bridge across the Columbia was the dominant topic on the Transportation front.

Good Legislation Passed

HB 2800A – I-5 Bridge. Strongly supported by AOL, it is a complex bill with a mix of funding, caps, and conditions, the most critical of which is the requirement that the State of Washington commit to funding their portion by September 30, 2013. As of the date of this publication, Washington had yet to commit to such funding.

SB 260/SB 5533 – ConnectOregon. Policy changes and funding allocation including $42 million in lottery bonds for ConnectOregon V. ConnectOregon is a lottery bond based initiative to invest in air, rail, marine, transit, and bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure improvements. ConnectOregon V has $42 million available for projects. Bicycle and pedestrian projects have been added to the modes eligible for funding.
The AOI Legislative Scorecard is a report to members on the voting performance of each Oregon Legislator on a set of bills on which AOI had taken a position.

AOI tabulates and scores votes for a selected group of bills in the areas of:

- Education & Workforce
- Employment Practices
- Environment & Energy
- Fiscal Policy
- General Business
- Health Care
- Retail
- Transportation

**Important Note**

Although the scorecard is important and provides insight in assessing how legislators voted and their support for the business community, *it affords only a partial picture of a legislator’s performance*. It is limited to recording actions on bills that make it to a vote and does not assess how a legislator may have been of critical help to AOI in other ways. A committee chair’s decision to allow a vote on a bill or hold it in committee, a legislator’s enthusiasm in championing a bill, or a lawmakers’ willingness to speak with a colleague on behalf of a measure are all actions that are incalculable. Yet in many cases they are more important than a vote itself and comprise the dynamics that shape the session. Still, the scorecard provides as objective a view as possible by analyzing votes on a select set of bills and evaluating the only really quantifiable action every legislator must take – to vote Yes or No.

To see the complete vote sets and individual votes, go to www.aoi.org
Many legislators helped advance the business and jobs agenda during the 2013 session. Sometimes it was by consistently casting a pro-jobs vote, sometimes by some other effort such as championing an important bill. Here are the Senate and House members who scored in the top 25% as well as some other members who helped on critical issues.

**SENATORS – Top 25%**

- **Alan Olsen**
  Canby
- **Bruce Starr**
  Hillsboro
- **Herman Baertschiger**
  Grants Pass
- **Bill Hansell**
  Pendleton
- **Tim Knopp**
  Bend
- **Jackie Winters**
  Salem
- **Chuck Thomsen**
  Hood River
- **Betsy Johnson**
  Scappoose

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

- **Senator Ted Ferrioli**
  John Day
  Senate Republican Leader
  Dedicated to advancing business in Oregon
- **Senator Larry George**
  Sherwood
  Tireless and creative work on tax reform
- **Senator Mark Hass**
  Portland
  Champion on Education Reform
- **Representative Tina Kotek**
  Portland
  Speaker of the House
  A leader on passing the I-5 bridge bill
REPRESENTATIVES – Top 25%

Andy Olson
Albany

John Davis
Wilsonville

Bill Kennemer
Oregon City

Mark Johnson
Hood River

Jim Weidner
McMinnville

John Huffman
The Dalles

Cliff Bentz
Ontario

Mike McLane
Powell Butte

Kevin Cameron
Salem

Sal Esquivel
Medford

Wayne Krieger
Gold Beach

Sherrie Sprenger
Scio

Gene Whisnant
Sunriver

Gail Whitsett
Klamath Falls

Tim Freeman
Roseburg
AOI LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD

Votes Included on Scorecard
AOI covers a spectrum of issues important to the business community – hundreds of bills. For scorecard purposes AOI selects a set of bills on which it has taken a position and is representative of the business communities’ interests. But it should be borne in mind that many legislators help in ways other than a vote and many issues, especially if contentious, never come up for a formal vote and are therefore not available for scoring.

SENATE VOTES SCORED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>BILL NO.</th>
<th>LOCATION OF VOTE</th>
<th>AOI POSITION</th>
<th>OUTCOME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New authorities for Higher Education Coordinating Commission</td>
<td>HB 3120B</td>
<td>Joint Ways &amp; Means</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HB 3120C</td>
<td>Senate Floor</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allows institutional governing boards at certain universities</td>
<td>SB 270B</td>
<td>Joint Ways &amp; Means</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Senate Floor</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workers’ Comp Liability Protections - Reinstates exclusive remedy protections for LLCs</td>
<td>SB 678A</td>
<td>Senate Business &amp; Trans</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Senate Floor</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broadens notification for Prospective Purchaser Agreements (cleanup)</td>
<td>SB 476A</td>
<td>Senate Env &amp; Nat Resources</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Senate Floor</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lifts sunset on authorization of Low Carbon Fuels Mandate</td>
<td>SB 488</td>
<td>Senate Env &amp; Nat Resources</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Senate Rules</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Senate Floor</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Failed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Task force on state-run retirement plan for private sector</td>
<td>HB 3436B</td>
<td>Joint Ways &amp; Means</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERS - Lite Reform, $350 million in deferred PERS payment</td>
<td>SB 822A</td>
<td>Joint Ways &amp; Means</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Senate Floor</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent Physicians’ Assistants and Nurse Practitioners must be paid same rate as MDs</td>
<td>HB 2902B</td>
<td>Joint Ways &amp; Means</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Senate Health &amp; Hum Services</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Senate Floor</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expanded Health insurance rate review</td>
<td>SB 413B</td>
<td>Senate Floor</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Failed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manufacturers must report certain chemicals in childrens’ products</td>
<td>HB 3162B</td>
<td>Joint Ways &amp; Means</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Passed</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HB 3162C</td>
<td>Senate Rules</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding &amp; authority for I-5 bridge construction</td>
<td>HB 2800A</td>
<td>Senate Business &amp; Trans</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Senate Floor</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Passed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Funds non-roadway transportation projects - ConnectOregon</td>
<td>SB 260A</td>
<td>Senate Business &amp; Trans</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Passed</td>
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<td></td>
<td>SB 260B</td>
<td>Joint Ways &amp; Means</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Senate Floor</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Passed</td>
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</table>
SENATE SCORES

Total Members 30
Democrats 16
Republicans 14

Ranking Mean = 62%

Who is my legislator: http://leg.state.or.us/findlegltr/
To see detailed individual voting record visit www.aoi.org

Alan Olsen (R-20 Canby) 92%
Bruce Starr (R-15 Hillsboro) 92%
Herman Baertschiger (R-2 Grants Pass) 89%
Bill Hansell (R-29 Pendleton) 84%
Tim Knopp (R-27 Bend) 83%
Jackie Winters (R-10 Salem) 82%
Chuck Thomsen (R-26 Hood River) 72%
Betsy Johnson (D-16 Scappoose) 69%
Ted Ferrioli (R-30 John Day) 67%
Larry George (R-13 Sherwood) 67%
Rod Monroe (D-24 Portland) 65%
Laurie Monnes Anderson (D-25 Gresham) 64%
Arnie Roblan (D-5 Coos Bay) 64%
Lee Beyer (D-6 Springfield) 63%
Mark Hass (D-14 Portland) 62%
Betsy Close (R-8 Albany) 60%
Chris Edwards (D-7 Eugene) 60%
Fred Girod (R-9 Stayton) 60%
Elizabeth Steiner Hayward (D-17 Beaverton) 56%
Doug Whitsett (R-28 Klamath Falls) 56%
Richard Devlin (D-19 Tualatin) 53%
Brian Boquist (R-12 Dallas) 50%
Ginny Burdick (D-18 Portland) 50%
Peter Courtney (D-11 Salem) 50%
Jackie Dingfelder (D-23 Portland) 50%
Jeff Kruse (R-1 Roseburg) 50%
Floyd Prozanski (D-4 Eugene) 50%
Diane Rosenbaum (D-21 Portland) 50%
Alan Bates (D-3 Ashland) 47%
Chip Shields (D-22 Portland) 45%
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>BILL NO.</th>
<th>LOCATION OF VOTE</th>
<th>AOI POSITION</th>
<th>OUTCOME</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EDUCATION</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>New authorities for Higher Education Coordinating Commission</td>
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<td>SB 270A</td>
<td>House Ed &amp; Workforce</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Passed</td>
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<td></td>
<td>SB 270B</td>
<td>House Floor</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Passed</td>
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<td><strong>EMPLOYMENT</strong></td>
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<td>Workers’ Comp Liability Protections - Reinstates exclusive remedy protections for LLCs</td>
<td>SB 678A</td>
<td>House Business &amp; Labor House Floor</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Passed</td>
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<td><strong>ENV &amp; ENERGY</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Broadens notification for Prospective Purchaser Agreements (cleanup)</td>
<td>SB 476A</td>
<td>House Judiciary House Floor</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Passed</td>
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<td><strong>FISCAL</strong></td>
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<td>$275M new taxes on measure 66 &amp; 67 taxpayers</td>
<td>HB 2456A</td>
<td>House Revenue</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Passed</td>
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<td>Removes prohibition on local taxes on tobacco products</td>
<td>HB 2870A</td>
<td>House Revenue House Floor</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Passed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Task force on state-run retirement plan for private sector</td>
<td>HB 3436B</td>
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<td>N</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GEN.</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Adds insurance into unlawful trade practices act</td>
<td>HB 3160A</td>
<td>House Consum &amp; Gov Effic House Floor</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Passed</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>HEALTH</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Independent Physicians’ Assistants and Nurse Practitioners must be paid same rate as MDs</td>
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<td>House Health Care Joint Ways &amp; Means House Floor</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HB 3162B</td>
<td>House Floor</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Passed</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>RETAIL</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Funding &amp; authority for I-5 bridge construction</td>
<td>HB 2800A</td>
<td>House Transportation House Floor</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Passed</td>
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<td><strong>TRANSPORTATION</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Funds non-roadway transportation projects - ConnectOregon</td>
<td>SB 260B</td>
<td>Joint Ways &amp; Means Senate Floor</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Passed</td>
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## HOUSE SCORES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Members</th>
<th>60</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Democrats</td>
<td>34</td>
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<tr>
<td>Republicans</td>
<td>26</td>
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</table>

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Party</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Andy Olson</td>
<td>(R-15 Albany)</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>John Davis</td>
<td>(R-26 Wilsonville)</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Bill Kennemer</td>
<td>(R-39 Oregon City)</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Mark Johnson</td>
<td>(R-52 Hood River)</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Jim Weidner</td>
<td>(R-24 McMinnville)</td>
<td>92%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>John Huffman</td>
<td>(R-59 The Dalles)</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Cliff Bentz</td>
<td>(R-60 Ontario)</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Mike McLane</td>
<td>(R-55 Powell Butte)</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Kevin Cameron</td>
<td>(R-19 Salem)</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Sal Esquivel</td>
<td>(R-6 Medford)</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Wayne Krieger</td>
<td>(R-1 Gold Beach)</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Sherrie Sprenger</td>
<td>(R-17 Scio)</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Gene Whisnant</td>
<td>(R-53 Sunriver)</td>
<td>85%</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Gail Whitsett</td>
<td>(R-56 Klamath Falls)</td>
<td>85%</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Tim Freeman</td>
<td>(R-2 Roseburg)</td>
<td>84%</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Jason Conger</td>
<td>(R-54 Bend)</td>
<td>83%</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Greg Smith</td>
<td>(R-57 Heppner)</td>
<td>81%</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Vicki Berger</td>
<td>(R-20 Salem)</td>
<td>80%</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Julie Parrish</td>
<td>(R-37 West Linn)</td>
<td>79%</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Bruce Hanna</td>
<td>(R-7 Roseburg)</td>
<td>78%</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Wally Hicks</td>
<td>(R-3 Grants Pass)</td>
<td>77%</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Kim Thatcher</td>
<td>(R-25 Keizer)</td>
<td>77%</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Bob Jenson</td>
<td>(R-58 Pendleton)</td>
<td>75%</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Dennis Richardson</td>
<td>(R-4 Central Point)</td>
<td>75%</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Vic Gilliam</td>
<td>(R-18 Silverton)</td>
<td>69%</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Greg Matthews</td>
<td>(D-50 Gresham)</td>
<td>64%</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Jeff Barker</td>
<td>(D-28 Aloha)</td>
<td>57%</td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Chris Garrett</td>
<td>(D-38 Lake Oswego)</td>
<td>57%</td>
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<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Caddy McKeown</td>
<td>(D-9 Coos Bay)</td>
<td>57%</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Jim Thompson</td>
<td>(R-23 Dallas)</td>
<td>53%</td>
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<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Brent Barton</td>
<td>(D-40 Oregon City)</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Michael Dembrow</td>
<td>(D-45 Portland)</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Margaret Doherty</td>
<td>(D-35 Tigard)</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Shemia Fagan</td>
<td>(D-51 Clackamas)</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Chris Gorsek</td>
<td>(D-49 Troutdale)</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Betty Komp</td>
<td>(D-22 Woodburn)</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Ben Unger</td>
<td>(D-29 Hillsboro)</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Brad Witt</td>
<td>(D-31 Clatskanie)</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Nancy Nathanson</td>
<td>(D-13 Eugene)</td>
<td>48%</td>
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<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Jennifer Williamson</td>
<td>(D-36 Portland)</td>
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<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Joe Gallegos</td>
<td>(D-30 Hillsboro)</td>
<td>46%</td>
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<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>Val Hoyle</td>
<td>(D-14 Eugene)</td>
<td>46%</td>
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<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>Jeff Reardon</td>
<td>(D-48 Portland)</td>
<td>46%</td>
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<td>44</td>
<td>Jules Bailey</td>
<td>(D-42 Portland)</td>
<td>43%</td>
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<td>45</td>
<td>Tobias Read</td>
<td>(D-27 Beaverton)</td>
<td>43%</td>
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<td>46</td>
<td>Carolyn Tomei</td>
<td>(D-41 Milwaukie)</td>
<td>43%</td>
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<td>47</td>
<td>Deborah Boone</td>
<td>(D-32 Cannon Beach)</td>
<td>42%</td>
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<td>48</td>
<td>Peter Buckley</td>
<td>(D-5 Ashland)</td>
<td>42%</td>
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<td>49</td>
<td>Phil Barnhart</td>
<td>(D-11 Eugene)</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<td>50</td>
<td>Lew Frederick</td>
<td>(D-43 Portland)</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>Paul Holvey</td>
<td>(D-8 Eugene)</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>John Lively</td>
<td>(D-12 Springfield)</td>
<td>39%</td>
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<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>Brian Clem</td>
<td>(D-21 Salem)</td>
<td>38%</td>
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<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>David Gomberg</td>
<td>(D-10 Lincoln City)</td>
<td>38%</td>
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<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>Chris Harker</td>
<td>(D-34 Beaverton)</td>
<td>38%</td>
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<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>Alissa Keny-Guyer</td>
<td>(D-46 Portland)</td>
<td>38%</td>
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<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>Tina Kotek</td>
<td>(D-44 Portland)</td>
<td>38%</td>
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<tr>
<td>58</td>
<td>Jessica Vega Pederson</td>
<td>(D-47 Portland)</td>
<td>38%</td>
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<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>Sara Gelser</td>
<td>(D-16 Corvallis)</td>
<td>36%</td>
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<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>Mitch Greenlick</td>
<td>(D-33 Portland)</td>
<td>31%</td>
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Ranking Mean = 62%
AOI POLICY COUNCIL CHAIRS

AOI is a member-driven organization with hundreds of business persons discussing and developing policy positions important to the business community. The councils are chaired by AOI members who are experts in their respective fields and dedicated to helping Oregon business succeed.

EDUCATION & WORKFORCE
CHAIR: Margaret Kirkpatrick, VP & General Counsel, NW Natural
AOI POLICY MANAGER: Betsy Earls

EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES
AOI POLICY MANAGER: J.L. Wilson

ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY
CO-CHAIRS: Sania Radcliffe, Director Government Affairs, Portland General Electric
            Greg Miller, Regional Public Affairs Manager, Weyerhaeuser Company
            AIO POLICY MANAGER: John Ledger

            AIR & ENERGY COMMITTEE:
            CO-CHAIR: Tom Wood, Partner, Stoel Rives LLP
            CO-CHAIR: David Like, Environmental Manager, Hampton Affiliates

            WATER & CLEAN-UP COMMITTEE:
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AOI POLICY MANAGER: J.L. Wilson

HEALTH CARE
CHAIR: Tom Fahey, Director Human Resources, Siltronic Corporation
AOI POLICY MANAGER: Betsy Earls

RETAIL POLICY
CHAIR: Francisco Uribe, Senior Manager, Government Relations, The Home Depot
AOI POLICY MANAGER: Betsy Earls
JAY M. CLEMENS
President & CEO
Jay brings many years of leadership experience to AOI. Prior to coming to AOI in 2006 as President & CEO, Jay served as President & CEO of Chambers of Commerce in Tulsa, Boise, Washington Tri-Cities, Bremerton, and Spokane. Jay also served as Vice President of Finance and Administration for the Association of Washington Business, and has held leadership positions in national, regional and state organizations, including the American Chamber of Commerce Executives Association and U.S. Chamber of Commerce Committee of 100. Jay holds a B.A. in Business Management from Eastern Washington University, an M.A. from Pacific Lutheran University and is a Certified Chamber Executive, U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

BETSY EARLS
Vice President and Counsel
Education & Workforce Development, Health Care, Oregon Retail Council
Betsy has been with AOI for 17 years representing employers before the Legislature and regulatory agencies in the areas of health care, education policy, and retail affairs. She has also worked in private law practice representing clients before the Oregon Legislature. Appointed to numerous advisory committees and commissions dealing with education and health care polices such as ETIC, the Engineering and Technology Industry Council, she also holds a seat on the Chemeketa Community College Board of Trustees. Betsy holds a B.S. in International Affairs from the University of Washington and a J.D. from Willamette University.

JOHN LEDGER
Vice President
Environment, Energy, Transportation
John has been with AOI since 1996 representing Oregon businesses before the Legislature and regulatory agencies in the areas of environment, energy, and transportation. John holds numerous appointments to boards and other bodies including appointments by the Governor, legislative leadership, and the Consul General of Canada. Before joining AOI, John held a variety of top management positions at the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality and was an adjunct professor teaching upper division and graduate level courses at Boise State University's College of Business. John holds a B.S. and M.S. in Biology from California State University, Los Angeles.

JAMES (“J.L.”) WILSON
Vice President
Employment Law, Fiscal Policy, Political Affairs
J.L. Wilson has served as AOI’s tax and fiscal policy lobbyist and employment law lobbyist since 2007. He also administers AOI’s Political Action Committee as well as the Oregon Prosperity Project. Coming from a family business in southern Oregon and having served as Legislative Director for two Speakers of the Oregon House, J.L.’s roots in Oregon business and politics run deep. He has served as a business association and contract lobbyist for 13 years focusing on tax and labor law and was appointed by the Governor to serve as chair of the state’s Workers’ Compensation Management-Labor Advisory Committee for six years. J.L. hold a B.S. in Economics from Willamette University.
FEDERAL & JUDICIARY

FEDERAL
AOI also works for members at the federal level. Staff and members communicate concerns on a range of policy issues by meeting directly with congressional representatives and staff as well as joining with business associations across the nation through the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

- Supporting HR 2542 the Regulatory Flexibility Act;
- Concerns about unfair trade practices by foreign countries;
- Supporting Miscellaneous Tariff Bill to facilitate importation of vital manufacturing components;
- Supporting Export-Import Bank to help small businesses;
- Opposing onerous rules proposed by National Labor Relations Board limiting employer free speech;
- Supporting EPA Regulatory Relief Act to lessen severe restrictions on many industrial processes, such as boilers;
- Supporting SR 1369 and HR 2541 overturning Ninth Circuit Court ruling requiring water quality permitting for forest roads;
- Opposing new much more restrictive ambient ozone standards endangering jobs;
- Supporting reform of nation’s entitlement system;
- Supporting a timely resolution of the “fiscal cliff;”
- Supporting Medicare waiver amendment for Oregon;
- Supporting funding for the I-5 Columbia River Bridge;
- Supporting efforts to limit federal regulatory agencies practice of settling lawsuits by rewriting state rules with advocacy groups with no notification to state or business community (Sue & Settle);
- Opposing new expansions of federal environmental reviews for Pacific Coast coal transport.

JUDICIARY
As warranted, AOI initiates, moves to intervene, or files amicus briefs in state and federal court on a wide range of issues important to AOI members.

- Opposed attempts by activist group to overturn state air permitting rules;
- Appealed federal court decision allowing lawsuits based on a person’s speculative fear of contracting future illness;
- Sought to overturn legislation restricting employers ability to speak with their employees about labor issues;
- Contested business unfriendly ballot initiatives for content and title;
- Removing protections for LLC owners and members from personal liability stemming from workplace injuries.
Your Chance to Make Things Change – the AOI Prosperity PAC

“If you want pro-business policies coming out of Salem, then you need to elect pro-business candidates to make the policies.”

The AOI Prosperity PAC is a coalition of Oregon companies committed to building pro-business political leadership in Salem. Companies invest in the AOI PAC as their primary tool to elect legislators who understand why it is important that your business succeeds.

The AOI PAC focuses on recruiting pro-business legislative candidates, analyzing legislative districts, and conducting polling, advertising, direct mail and direct contributions to help good candidates win elections.

It is Oregon’s largest business PAC. It is effective, professional, and successful.

The AOI PAC is also a first line of defense against anti-business ballot measures threatening to raise taxes or impose unreasonable regulation. This year, at least 10 potential ballot measures have been filed to raise taxes even higher on businesses and individuals. AOI PAC is challenging these initiative petitions in the Oregon Supreme Court.

AOI PAC is growing significantly as the business community faces the reality that numerous interest groups are aggressively expanding statewide agendas harmful to business. The consequences of this can be seen everywhere and felt in your business. There is an answer. If we are to increase the prosperity of the state and its citizens, the business community must continue to build the resources to deliver a reliable legislative majority on core business issues and resoundly defeat anti-business measures.

There is a continuing and ever growing necessity for a broad and successful business coalition willing to invest in rebuilding and sustaining pro-business political leadership in Oregon.

This is the work of the AOI Prosperity PAC.

To find out more about the AOI Prosperity PAC go to www.aoi.org or call 503-588-0050.
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Neil Nelson, Chair  President and CEO, Siltronic Corporation
Jay Clemens, President & CEO  Associated Oregon Industries
Pat Reiten, First Vice-Chair  President & CEO, Pacific Power, A Division of PacifiCorp
Tom Corry, Treasurer  Senior Vice President, Bank of America Merrill Lynch
Margaret Kirkpatrick, Secretary  Vice President & General Counsel, NW Natural
Howard Werth, Immediate Past Chair  CFO & Treasurer, Leupold & Stevens, Inc.
Scott Parrish, Vice-Chair District 1  President, A-dec, Inc.
Dan Thordike, Vice-Chair District 2  General Counsel & Secretary-Treasurer, Medford Fabrication
Pat McCormick, Vice-Chair District 3  Partner, AM:PM PR, LLC
Alan Thayer, Vice-Chair District 4  Managing Partner, Innovative Law Group
Greg Miller, Vice-Chair District 5  Regional Public Affairs Manager, Weyerhaeuser Company
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Susan Reed  Vice President & General Manager, CenturyLink
Jeanne Staton  President, Staton Companies

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Mike Becker  Director of Advocacy, Providence Health Service–Oregon
Dick Boyd  Chairman, Boyd Coffee Company
Jon Buerstatte  Partner, Gleaves Swearingen Potter & Scott LLP
Brian Burton  General Counsel, Daimler Trucks North America LLC
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Rich White  Manager, Local Government Relations, The Boeing Company
Steve Wildish  Vice President, Wildish Land Co.
Steve Zika  Chief Executive Officer, Hampton Affiliates