



2019 OBI Annual Meeting
Building Oregon: It Starts With Jobs
 Honoring Senator Betsy Johnson | May 7 | 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Salem Convention Center
REGISTER 

OBI Annual Meeting – May 7

Please join Oregon Business & Industry for the 2019 Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 7, at the Salem Convention Center. Registration is open! Click the image above to register.

This year, OBI is honoring Sen. Betsy Johnson with the first Jobs Champion Award. OBI celebrates her commitment to keeping Oregon’s workforce trained for the future and our manufacturing industries strong through her establishment of the Oregon Manufacturing Innovation Center in Scappoose.

Speakers at the event will include Governor Kate Brown, House Speaker Tina Kotek, Senate Republican Leader Herman Baertschiger, Sen. Arnie Roblan and House Republican Leader Carl Wilson. A panel of business leaders will discuss the outlook for growing employment in Oregon. We invite all our members and partners to join us as we bring together economic and civic leaders to discuss how business builds great Oregon jobs.

[Click here](#) to learn more about the event and register.

PERS Reform

Tim Nesbitt, with OBI partner [PERS Solutions for Public Service](#), testified before the Ways and Means Joint Subcommittee on Capital Construction [on March 29](#) outlining key reforms for fixing the PERS unfunded liability.

“This is not about cutting benefits to strip money out of budgets,” he told the committee, “but rebalancing where needed to be able to do better as our economy and our resources continue to grow.”

To watch a video of Nesbitt’s presentation or Q&A, click on either of the images below.



Tim Nesbitt PERS Reform Presentation



Tim Nesbitt PERS Reform Q&A

Tax Update

The OBI team remains highly engaged in the tax discussion at the Capitol. [Last week legislators said](#) they were looking at a “hybrid” model that could combine elements of the gross receipts tax and the business activity tax. However, the Joint Committee on Student Success revenue subcommittee has yet to say what the next steps will be.

Carbon Reduction

The Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction released 130 pages of [amendments](#) to HB 2020, largely rewriting the [original 55-page bill](#). OBI is working with partners to analyze the amendments, which were introduced at a [work session on March 25](#). The committee held another work session on [March 29](#), and has another scheduled for [April 1](#). If you don't want to read all 130 pages, check out this Oregon Public Broadcasting article, which outlined [five key elements](#) in the amendments.

Paid Family Leave

At public hearings on March 25, business advocates told Senate and House committees on Monday how proposed new paid family leave bills could impact employers' abilities to hire and keep their workforce. [HB 3031](#) proposes to require businesses with as few as a single employee to provide paid leave for up to 32 weeks. Click on the image to see Breana Scott, with OBI member The Standard, giving invited testimony.



Oregon Legislature

What Happened Last Week

As session deadlines approach, activity at the Legislature is picking up. Here are some bills OBI was watching:

- Nearly identical bills in the House and Senate prohibit the sale, purchase and use of chlorpyrifos and limit uses of neonicotinoid, two types of pesticides. Committees held

public hearings on [SB 853](#) and [HB 3058](#) on March 26. OBI is opposed to these because regulations from the EPA and the DEQ already exist, and it puts a burden on agricultural producers. Read OBI's [full testimony here](#).

- Gov. Brown signed [HB 2087](#) on March 27. The bill changes caps on civil penalties for violations of workers compensation statutes or required practices.
 - On March 28, the House Committee on Health Care held a public hearing which included [HB 3262](#) and [HB 2269](#). HB 3262 imposes fees on businesses – including retail – with employees or employees with children who receive public assistance. Through amendments, HB 2269 asks lawmakers to fill a \$120 million gap in Medicaid funding by imposing these fees on employers. The revenue generated by HB 2269 would far exceed the \$120 million needed for Medicaid by around \$400 million. [Click here](#) to read a one-page outline how these bills could affect employers.
-

Coming Up This Week

- House and Senate committees are reviewing similar bills relating to workplace discrimination. [HB 3333](#) and [SB 726](#) prohibit certain nondisclosure agreements, expand the statute of limitations for certain discrimination complaints from two years to seven years, and impose individual liability on individuals with executive authority in businesses. The Senate Workforce Committee will address SB 726 on April 2 and the House Judiciary Committee will address HB 3333 on April 3.
 - Also on April 2, the Joint Committee on Student Success is expected to release its education spending plan for the \$2 billion proposed tax revenue. The main committee [meets at 5 p.m.](#) and the subcommittee on Revenue, which is working on the tax proposals, [meets at 6 p.m.](#)
-

Do you have questions about pending legislation? Feel free to contact our team.

Tax and fiscal policies: [Mike Stober](#)

Education and health care policies: [Nathaniel Brown](#)

Employment and retail policies: [Paloma Sparks](#)

Environment and energy policies: [Sharla Moffett](#)



Oregon Legislature In the News

[Lawmakers go into second half of session with full plate](#)

[Nike squares off against Intel, other businesses over big Oregon tax hike](#)

[Oregon lawmakers look at adapting Texas' 'hybrid' business tax](#)

[Oregon takes 1st step toward campaign finance limits](#)

[Oregon may grant driving privileges to undocumented immigrants](#)

[Lawmakers offer first round of compromises on climate change legislation](#)

[Oregon bills call for restrictions on potentially harmful pesticides](#)

[Oregon lawmakers consider paid family medical leave](#)

Wholesale Fuel Pricing

OBI has partnered with MCP Petroleum to drive down OBI members' fuel cost. OBI is leveraging the collective purchasing power of our membership to get wholesale fuel pricing for our members. In addition to fuel savings, OBI members will have access to a comprehensive fuel management system that will reduce slippage, save valuable employee time and provide accountability and oversight of your company's fuel consumption.



OBI members who use 900 gallons of fuel annually through their company are eligible for this program. Please contact [Mike Beyrouly](#) for more information.

LegalPlus Program

Did you know, by being an OBI member you can get free legal advice? OBI and Innova Legal Advisors provides members 15 minutes of legal consultation each month through the LegalPlus program. Check it out by [clicking here](#). Or contact Bob Blackmore at Innova Legal Advisors: Phone: 503-479-7175; email: Bob.Blackmore@innovalegaladvisors.com



OBI HealthChoice
Big Business Options on
a Small Business Budget

LEARN MORE →

A banner for OBI HealthChoice with a background image of a stethoscope and a white lab coat. The text is white and centered. At the bottom, there is a white button with the text 'LEARN MORE' and a right-pointing arrow.

**Smart Oregon
Businesses Choose
OBI CompSAFE**

LEARN MORE →

A banner for Smart Oregon Businesses Choose OBI CompSAFE with a background image of a diverse group of business professionals. The text is white and centered. At the bottom, there is a white button with the text 'LEARN MORE' and a right-pointing arrow.

Calendar of Events

Labor & Employment Seminar

OBI is one of the sponsors for the 36th annual Best Practices for Best Employers labor and employment seminar put on by Lane Powell.

The event will cover important topics for employers and businesses, including drug testing, federal and state disability laws, immigration, privacy laws, employee benefits updates, new hire best practices, how to conduct an effective workplace investigation and new federal, state and local legal developments.

- When: Wednesday, May 1
- Where: The Duniway Portland

Special Discount to OBI members: As a benefit of your membership, you will receive a special discounted rate of \$50 (regular registration fee is \$110 prepaid online, or \$130 at door). To get the discounted \$50 registration rate for the seminar, register online and enter the code **OBIMEMBER** when prompted at checkout.

For more information and to register, please visit the [event website](#).

Oregon Business & Industry
oregonbusinessindustry.com
1149 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

