

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 ➔



Tax Update

Last week, the Joint Committee on Student Success continued work on its \$2 billion tax proposal, indicating that it may finalize a plan as early as this week. The committee renamed the bill to [HB 3427](#), outlining most of the proposal in the [-1 amendments](#). The proposal would levy a 0.49 percent tax rate on gross receipts over \$1 million. Businesses would be able to deduct 25 percent of their labor or input costs.

OBI made its opposition to aspects of the proposal clear at a hearing Tuesday. OBI Chair Scott Parrish, along with Rob O'Neill and Scott Hibbs, co-chairs of the OBI tax and fiscal policy steering committee, each spoke about concerns with how the proposal would affect Oregon businesses and Oregon's economy. Click the image below to watch a full video of their testimony.



The committee heard more public testimony on [Thursday](#), and has another meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 23, at 5 p.m.



2019 Earth Day

Today is Earth Day and OBI is featuring ways members work every day to make our planet a better place. With partners, we produced a list of ways some OBI members improve their companies to help the environment. [Click here](#) to see the list.

Building Oregon: It Starts With Jobs



HONORING

Senator Betsy Johnson with the first Jobs Champion Award for her work with the Oregon Manufacturing Innovation Center

WITH GUEST SPEAKERS

Governor Kate Brown
Senate Republican Leader
Herman Baertschiger
Senator Arnie Roblan
House Speaker Tina Kotek
House Republican Leader Carl Wilson
Panel of Business Leaders

OBI Annual Meeting – May 7

Please join Oregon Business & Industry for the 2019 Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 7, at the Salem Convention Center. That's only three weeks away!

Registration is open! Click the image to register.

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.

OBI is honoring Sen. Betsy Johnson with the first Jobs Champion Award, presenting speakers Gov. Kate Brown, House Speaker Tina Kotek, Senate Republican Leader Herman Baertschiger, House Republican Leader Carl Wilson and Sen. Arnie Roblan, and a panel of business leaders will discuss the outlook for growing employment in Oregon.

[Click here](#) to find out more about the event.

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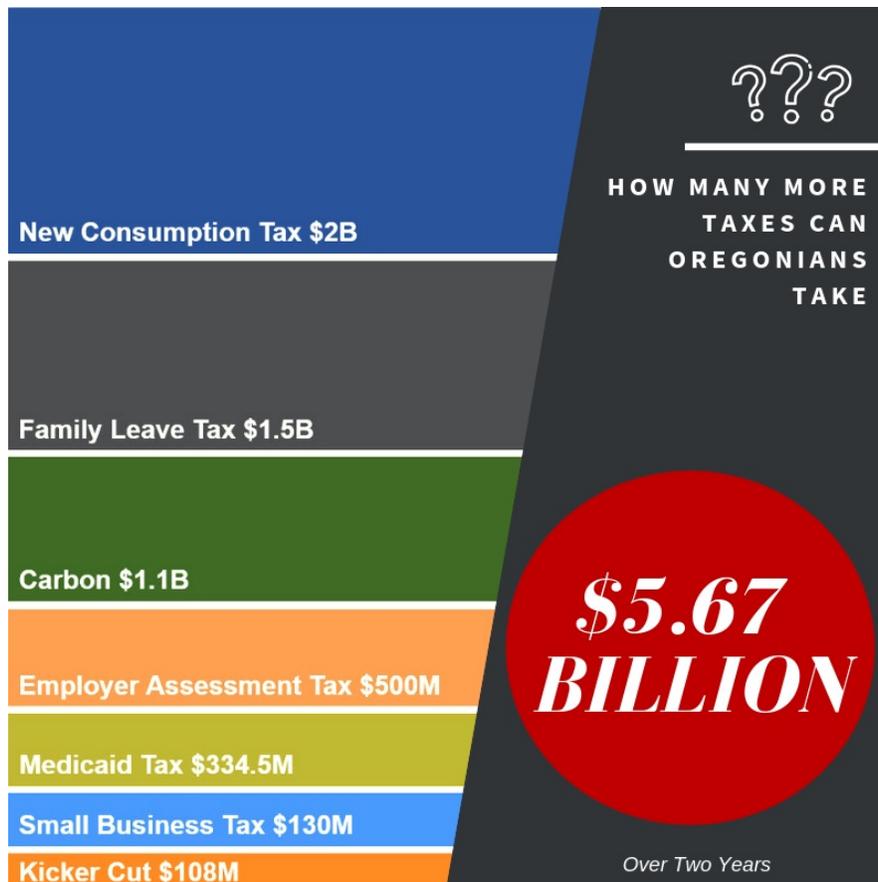
Jobs Champion Sponsor



\$5.67 Billion

OBI and partners are urging the Legislature to consider the totality of the business tax and fee proposals being considered in this legislative session. OBI was able to illustrate the size of the burden with the graphic below. Please feel free to share it with others.

And, if you have participated in our Brighter Oregon advocacy effort, thank you. As of this morning, Brighter Oregon had generated 14,966 emails to legislators about tax and fiscal policies. If you aren't seeing Brighter emails, please go to this [link](#) to sign up.



Oregon Legislature

What Happened Last Week

- [HB 2395](#), which requires security for devices connected to the internet, or smart devices, passed the House on Tuesday, April 16. It is headed for the Senate.
- [HB 2015](#), which eliminates the requirement that a person provide proof of legal residence to get a driver license, was heard by the Joint Committee on Transportation on Wednesday, April 17.
- [HB 2509](#), the single-use plastic bag prohibition at checkout stands, was referred to the House Committee on Rules on Tuesday, April 16. It is scheduled for a [public hearing today](#) to adopt [amendments](#).
- Two bills relating to pregnancy, childbirth and breastfeeding passed the House last week. [HB 2341](#) bans employers from denying employment, or failing to make reasonable accommodations, for employees relating to pregnancy, childbirth or



related medical conditions. [HB 2593](#) requires employers to allow for breast milk pumping or feeding.

- [HB 5024](#), the Higher Education Coordinating Commission's budget bill, had a public hearing on Thursday, April 17. [OBI testified in support](#).

Coming Up This Week

- [HB 3022](#), the workers' compensation bill, is scheduled for a [public hearing and work session today](#). OBI has been very involved with the Management-Labor Advisory Committee (MLAC) subcommittee over the past two months to ensure changes minimally affect employers.
- [SB 726](#), a bill dealing with discrimination claims, is scheduled for a vote in the Senate [Today](#). OBI played a role in negotiations that alleviated some of the bill's impacts, although we remain concerned about language that would extend the statute of limitations from one to five years.

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

[Oregon Democrats' legislative priorities come alive as Republican frustrations rise](#)

[Oregon House passes bill requiring security for online devices](#)

[Gov. Kate Brown declares 'crisis' at her child welfare agency, says she'll personally step in to make fixes](#)

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 [Jeff DeSantis](#) for more information.



PETROLEUM

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 →

The banner features a background image of a stethoscope and a person's hands, overlaid with a semi-transparent purple box containing the text.

**Smart Oregon
Businesses Choose
OBI CompSAFE**

LEARN MORE →

The banner features a background image of a group of business professionals, overlaid with a semi-transparent blue box containing the text.

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](#).

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