



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 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 for her work in establishment of the Oregon Manufacturing Innovation Center in Scappoose. Johnson is committed to keeping Oregon’s workforce trained for the future.

Speakers at the event will include Gov. Kate Brown, House Speaker Tina Kotek, Senate Republican Leader Herman Baertschiger, House Republican Leader Carl Wilson and Sen. Arnie Roblan. A panel of business leaders will discuss the outlook for growing employment in Oregon.

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

OBI thanks its sponsors for this event.

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BUILDING AMERICA®



OBI Visits DC

OBI joined the annual Oregon Business Plan trip to Washington, D.C., last week, to advocate for Oregon's businesses with our congressional delegation. OBI Board Chair Scott Parrish, President and CEO Sandra McDonough, and other OBI members joined the Portland Business Alliance and Oregon Business Council in meeting with Oregon's congressional delegation and Trump administration officials on Wednesday and Thursday.



Photo by Portland Business Alliance



Oregon economy advocates meeting with Rep. Peter DeFazio and his staff. Photo by Portland Business Alliance



OBI Board Chairman Scott Parrish and Loni Parrish meet with Rep. Suzanne Bonamici in Washington, D.C.

\$5.67 Billion

Taxes, fees and new programs could cost Oregon's economy \$5.67 billion over the next two years. Working with partners in the business lobby, OBI tabulated the bill and released a graphic to illustrate the issue.

Please contact your legislators and let them know that \$5.67 billion is more than Oregonians – and the Oregon economy – can handle. [Click here](#) for information about legislators.



PERS Ballot Measure

Last week Oregon PERS Solutions, a new advocacy group, filed two ballot measures asking voters to weigh in on the PERS issue. [Click here](#) for a summary of the initiatives. [Click here](#) to read Oregon PERS Solutions' official press release and [click here](#) to read OBI's statement.

Bill Deadline

This week holds an important deadline for bills to progress in the 2019 Legislature. Bills must make it through committee by April 9 (Tuesday) to continue in the legislative process. On Monday and Tuesday, more than 345 bills are scheduled for public hearings or work sessions. Some committees, such as those addressing budgets and revenue, are not included in the deadline.

Oregon Legislature

What Happened Last Week

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

- The [Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction](#) continued to hold public work sessions last week on HB 2020, the carbon reduction bill. It held work sessions on [April 1](#) and [April 5](#) discussing ongoing [amendments](#). OBI is working with partners on this bill.
- The Senate Education Committee referred [SB 764](#), which aims to include class size and caseload limits in collective bargaining, to the Student Success Committee on [April 3](#). OBI has opposed this bill.
- The House Committee on Energy and Environment passed [HB 2509](#), the bill prohibiting single-use plastic bags at checkouts in all of Oregon, on [April 4](#). The bill passed with [amendments](#) and moves on to the House floor for a vote. OBI continues to seek amendments to the bill.
- The Management-Labor Advisory Committee (MLAC) approved a compromise agreement on proposed changes to workers' compensation law related to diagnostics

and ceases denials. Legislative counsel is working on amendment language. OBI opposed the bill as introduced and asked for MLAC review before it was considered by legislators.

- The Joint Committee on Student Success revenue subcommittee continued discussions about a new consumption-based tax, releasing new concepts. OBI continues to engage in this conversation. The full Joint Committee also released its \$2 billion education-spending plan. While the plan includes funding for some OBI programs, including early childhood education and career technical education, it does not include funding for post-secondary education, specifically community colleges and universities. OBI will continue to engage in these conversations.

Coming Up This Week

- [HB 3031](#) is up for a work session on [April 8](#). The bill proposes to require businesses with as little as a single employee to provide paid leave up to 32 weeks, establishes a state-run family and medical leave program and insurance fund, and requires both the employee and employer to contribute to that fund. For OBI's talking points on this bill, [click here](#).
- [SB 853](#), one of the bills which would prohibit the sale, purchase, or use of certain pesticides, has a work session scheduled with the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural resources on [April 8](#). OBI has raised concerns about this bill.
- [HB 3333](#), which aims to 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, has a work session with the House Committee on Judiciary scheduled for [April 8](#). OBI opposed the bill as introduced and has been working on amendments.

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

[Former Oregon Gov. wants to reduce PERS benefits to offset mounting costs](#)

[Oregon lawmakers roll out billion-dollar 'student success' plan](#)

[Two hearings on major gun bills draw hundreds to Oregon Capitol](#)

[Bev Clarno sworn in as Oregon's new secretary of state](#)

[Oregon Democrats vote to cut 'kicker' tax rebate by \\$108 million](#)

[Popular vote bill moves to Senate floor in Oregon](#)

[Oregon Senate Oks permanent daylight savings time](#)

[Early learning, behavioral supports among top priorities outlined in Student Success Act](#)

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 →

The banner features a background image of a person's hands holding a stethoscope. The text is overlaid in white and purple.

**Smart Oregon
Businesses Choose
OBI CompSAFE**

LEARN MORE →

The banner features a background image of a group of five business professionals standing together. The text is overlaid in white and green.

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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