Campaign Finance

During the 2018 Governor’s race, campaign finance was a leading issue. Legislators are now moving forward with significant changes to Oregon’s campaign finance laws. Several bills passed the House last week and now head to the Senate. HB 2714 would establish campaign contribution limits, but there would be no limits on contributions from small donor, political party and caucus political action committees. HB 2716 would make new requirements for independent expenditure disclosures in political advertising. And HB 2983 would require disclosure of donors to organizations that communicate in favor or in opposition to candidates or measures. The Senate Rules Committee is also taking up a constitutional amendment in the form of SJR 18. This bill would be a referral to the voters. OBI is engaging with partners to ensure any changes maintain a level playing field. Read this weekend’s editorial in The Oregonian.

Paid Family Leave

HB 2005, the Paid Family Leave bill, is expected to move this week. A new negotiated amendment is expected today or tomorrow. The bill is scheduled for a hearing tomorrow in the House Rules Committee. The amendments reflect provisions negotiated by OBI and partners to ensure employer concerns are addressed.

OBI is tracking the bill development closely.

Oregon Legislature

What Happened Last Week

- HB 2014, which would remove the $500,000 limit on noneconomic damages in wrongful death cases, died on the Senate floor on June 4. Four Democrats joined Republicans in voting against the bill, defeating it in a 14-15 vote. OBI has been part of a broad coalition opposed to this bill.
On June 5, the Natural Resources Subcommittee of Ways & Means adopted the -101 and -103 amendments to HB 2020, the Cap and Trade bill. During the hearing, Rep. David Brock Smith proposed several amendments, including the -104 which would have removed the emergency clause from the bill. Majority Democrats on the committee voted against the -104 amendment. On a party-line vote the committee voted to move the bill to the full Ways & Means Committee. Here is a section-by-section of the -101 amendment from the Legislative Policy and Research Office.

Coming Up This Week

- **HB 2509**, which would ban the use of plastic checkout bags and impose a 5-cent fee on paper bags, is scheduled for a vote in the Senate this week.
- **SB 123**, the Pay Equity fix bill, is scheduled for a hearing in the House Rules Committee tomorrow.
- The Joint Committee on Tax Expenditures is expected to meet tomorrow and Friday to consider further amendments to and pass HB 2164, the bill that extends expiring tax credits and makes technical tax changes to the $2 billion Student Success Act that passed earlier this legislative session. Many of the technical changes are being made at OBI's request, and we will continue to engage with the revenue committees in future legislative sessions to make further improvements to the legislation, particularly when it comes to the treatment of food products.

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

- **Opinion: Farewell to a trailblazer, a senator and a friend**
- **Editorial: Proposed campaign donation limits only limit who holds the power**
- **Oregon Legislature overhauls nearly century-old dam safety rules**
- **OEC Oregon Environmental Council: Oregon’s landmark climate bill moves toward Ways and Means, historic action**
- **Opinion: Two cheers for the Legislature’s PERS reform package**
Non-road Diesel Engine Survey

Please consider filling out this survey from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality on non-road diesel engine use. In 2017, OBI and other business organizations negotiated a compromise to the diesel phase-out bill, in part asking that the state complete a survey of existing diesel uses. This survey represents the effort to collect more data on non-road diesel engines. OBI is promoting the survey in our various weekly and monthly newsletters to assist the DEQ in collecting Oregon-specific information on diesel generators and compressors. Without state-specific information, DEQ would utilize EPA's default data that likely overestimate emissions and provide an unrealistic picture of air pollution levels in the state. This is a blind, confidential survey and will not be used to create an equipment registry. Both businesses who utilize diesel compressors and generators and those who don’t should take the survey to ensure the data collected is accurate.

Click Here for Survey

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.

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
Calendar of Events

Unemployment Insurance Conference

June 27 is your chance to get the scoop on unemployment insurance strategies to improve your bottom line. The National Unemployment Insurance Policy Conference is coming to Portland and offers a unique opportunity for businesses and companies to learn about unemployment tax, benefits and policy to 2020 and beyond.

OBI has a special single-day pass rate for members for June 27. Click here to learn more.

- What: National Unemployment Insurance Policy Conference
- When: June 26-28
- Where: Portland Marriott Downtown Waterfront Hotel
- Event information: www.uwcstrategy.org/conferences/

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