In View: Employment

Buy your tickets now for the 2019 Statesman Dinner, which will be held Monday, Oct. 7, at the Portland Art Museum. We are pleased to announce that this year’s Statesmen honorees are former Gov. Ted Kulongoski and legendary Oregon businessman and civic leader Gerry Frank. Our keynote speaker for the evening will be U.S. Sen. Lisa Murkowski of Alaska. If you would like to acquire tickets click [here](#) or email Morgan Beltz.

In the Legislature

Age Discrimination

Last month, Speaker Tina Kotek indicated that the Legislature may revisit the age discrimination that OBI played a role in defeating during the 2019 legislative session. AARP and trial attorneys had pushed for [HB 2818](#), saying it was necessary because of issues faced by older workers. AARP produced a report as background for the bill. OBI felt the legislation was unnecessary because federal law prohibits discrimination based on age for individuals over 40 and Oregon state law prohibits discrimination based on age for anyone over 18. Last month, Speaker Kotek was asked about the legislation and said that the bill will likely come up again. We will keep you updated as this develops.

Regulatory Updates

The Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) has completed work on model notices for employers to distribute to employees regarding federal inspections, as required by [SB 370](#), which passed in the 2019 legislative session. The new law requires employers to provide...
employees with 72-hour notice of a federal inspection if the employer has been given advance notice. The legislation is largely targeted at notifying employees of possible inspections by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). The notices developed by BOLI are available in English, Spanish, Chinese, Korean, Russian, and Vietnamese. The BOLI information page also has frequently asked questions to help provide guidance to employers. Employers should make every effort to comply with the law as some employees may be aware of it. The law was passed without any sort of enforcement mechanism so employers who mistakenly fail to provide the required notice will not be penalized.

New Portland Payroll Deductions

As of Sept. 1, 2019, Portland employers must allow employees to make contributions to political committees through payroll deductions if the employer already make similar deductions available to employees or agree to do so. All employees, both private and public, are covered if they are located within the city of Portland. Contributions are post-tax. This requirement is part of the campaign finance amendment to the City Charter passed by voters in November 2018. Background and additional information on the larger campaign finance City Charter change measure are available from the City’s elections website. Questions can be directed to the City’s Elections Office at 503-823-3546 or elections@portlandoregon.gov.

Upcoming Events

Schwabe Manufacturing Symposium

OBI and our members Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt and Aldrich have partnered to present the annual Schwabe Manufacturing Symposium. OBI’s President and CEO Sandra McDonough will be a featured panelist. Topics include Economic Outlook for Manufacturers, Legislative Update, Military to Manufacturing: A Workforce Solution, and the Next Wage of Manufacturing. The event will be held at the Hilton Portland on Sept. 27, 2018, 8:00am-11:30am. Click here to see more and to register.

If you or your company would like to contribute content to OBI newsletters, please let us know by emailing communications@oregonbusinessindustry.com.
In the News

Grocery Workers Authorize Strike Against OR and WA Stores if Negotiations Fail
Columbia Sportswear Announces $33M Headquarters Expansion
Pay Equity Update: Oregon Legislature Amends Equal Pay Law
Eastern Oregon Businesses Can Qualify for Funds to Stay Competitive
Ninth Circuit Requires Proof of “But For” Causation for Claims Under ADA
Amazon to Double Downtown Portland Office with 400 New Jobs
My View: PERS Pension Debt Cloud’s Oregon’s Fiscal Future (Former Sen. Chris Telfer)

Resources

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.