

OREGON
BUSINESS
& INDUSTRY



In View: Manufacturing

Oregon Business & Industry counts more than 300 Oregon manufacturers as our members, so we track issues affecting manufacturing very closely. This newsletter is designed to highlight issues important to our manufacturing members. Please feel free to share your thoughts and news with us, communications@oregonbusinessindustry.com.



Regulatory Updates

Cap and Trade Hearings Begin

The Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction has begun hearings on [HB 2020](#), with invited testimony that has included environmental and equity groups, representatives of electricity and natural gas providers and a variety of other stakeholders representing transportation, timber, farming and a variety of industries with a focus on manufacturing. OBI was represented at the committee by Curtis Lesslie, representing OBI member Ash Grove Cement Company. [Click here](#) to see Ash Grove's testimony.

Upcoming Cap and Trade Public Hearings

The Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction will begin holding public hearings on the cap and trade bill this week, with hearings on Friday, Feb. 15 and Monday, Feb. 18 at the Capitol in Salem. If you are able, we encourage you to participate. The committee is also planning hearings around the state, so please try to attend. Here's the full schedule:

Feb. 15 in Salem

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Capitol, Hearing Room F

Feb. 18 in Salem

5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Capitol, Hearing Room F

Feb. 22 in Springfield

12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Springfield City Hall, Council Chamber

Feb. 23 in Medford

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Medford City Hall, Council Chamber

March 1 in The Dalles

12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

The Dalles Civic Auditorium, Community Room

March 2 in Bend

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Central Oregon Community College, Cascade Hall, Room 246-248

Hearing on Bill That Would Limit Enforcement of Drug-Free Workplace

On Feb. 7 the Senate Committee on Judiciary held a public hearing on [SB 379](#), which would eliminate employers' ability to enforce drug-free workplace policies. As currently drafted, an employer could not discipline an employee who tested positive for marijuana if the employee used "a substance that is lawful to use under the laws of the state during nonworking hours." Along with many other business advocates, OBI was represented at the hearing by Cristina Reyes of OBI member Hoffman Construction. Click on the video below to watch Cristina's testimony.



Industrial Land Readiness

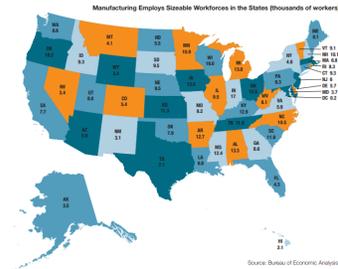
OBI has long supported investment in our industrial land supply. In 2013, the legislature created the Oregon Industrial Site Readiness Program. SB 246 authorized Business Oregon to offer partially forgivable loans or reimbursement of project costs to help public sector sponsors remove constraints to market readiness on regionally significant industrial sites in exchange for job creation commitments. This year, [SB 34](#) was introduced to update the program and expand eligibility for loans. OBI has signed on as supporters and part of the Industrial Lands Coalition. [Click here](#) to read more.



Resources

Manufacturing Employment by State

Some 10.2 percent of Oregon workers are employed by manufacturing. [Click here](#) to see a state by state comparison from the National Association of Manufacturers.



Oregon Manufacturers in the News

[Oregon Manufacturers Struggle to Find Qualified Workers: 'The key word there is qualified'](#)

[Federal Tariffs Impacting Local Markets](#)

[Oregon Legislature Treads Carefully Toward Pricing Carbon](#)

[Intel Says Huge New Oregon Factory Will Add 1,750 Jobs](#)

[Gunderson: Riding High at 100](#)

[Marijuana in the Workplace Legislation](#)



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