Statesman Dinner

The 2019 Statesman Dinner is just around the corner on Oct. 7! We are happy to say the event is sold out! We at OBI are excited to join business and legislative leaders to honor Gov. Ted Kulongoski and legendary businessman Gerry Frank as our Statesmen of the Year, and to hear keynote speaker Alaska Sen. Lisa Murkowski. We look forward to seeing you at the Portland State University Viking Pavilion on Monday evening.

Message from our Board Chair

This month manufacturing members told their company stories in profiles on the OBI website. OBI Board Chair Scott Parrish reflects on their comments about the challenges manufacturers face and the way manufacturing supports Oregon’s economy in this month’s Board Chair Message. Click here to read more and share your thoughts with Scott at scottparrish@oregonbusinessindustry.com.

Manufacturing Week

OBI marked Manufacturing Week the first week of October, including celebrating Manufacturing Day on Oct. 4. We produced a special edition of the InView: Manufacturing newsletter, which included articles about attracting manufacturing talent, a look at manufacturing by the numbers and a review of the Manufacturing Symposium on Sept. 27.
OBI featured seven manufacturing members on our website and social media. If your company did anything special for the week or the day, please let us know so we can share the good news.

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**USMCA**

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is urging Congress to pass the U.S. Mexico Canada Agreement, better known as the USMCA. OBI also supports its passage, as it will help create American jobs, cultivate innovation and spur economic growth. The Chamber’s website on the USMCA lists many ways it will benefit the U.S. economy, businesses and workers. For example, the USMCA will help support:

- 12 million American jobs through trade
- 2 million manufacturing jobs
- 1/3 of U.S. agricultural goods that go to Canada and Mexico
- 120,000 small- and medium-sized businesses that sell to Canada and Mexico

For a brief primer on the USMCA, check out this video:

You can lend your voice to urge Congress to pass the USMCA by clicking here.
Tax Rulemaking

The Oregon Department of Revenue has started the process for rulemaking on the new Corporate Activity Tax, the result of the $2 billion K-12 education bill, HB 3427. Over the past few weeks, OBI members and staff attended several of the meetings the Department of Revenue held around the state regarding the new tax. OBI is there to represent our members and ensure the rulemaking process is done in a fair and timely manner.

If you have concerns, please contact Mike Stober, OBI director of government affairs, for questions or more information. Or check out the state’s Corporate Activity Tax (CAT) website. You can also send questions and feedback to the CAT policy team at cat.help@dor.oregon.gov.

DEQ Greenhouse Gas Reporting

As you might have seen in last week’s Capitol Central, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality was fast-tracking a greenhouse gas (GHG) reporting rule. OBI staff noted this as an attempt to lay the foundation for a carbon reduction policy, bypassing the Legislature after the failure of HB 2020, the cap and trade bill. By objecting to this tactic and notifying legislators, OBI was able to slow the process down to allow time for sufficient input.

The proposed rule changes the greenhouse gas reporting program, including requiring third-party verification for GHG reporting and the clean fuels program. OBI's Sharla Moffett sits on the rulemaking advisory committee, which is scheduled to meet on Nov. 1. If you have concerns or comments, please send them to Sharla so she can share them with the committee.

September New Members

Jordan Aircraft Services, Inc.
Amazon
Gallatin Public Affairs
Avion Water
Sather Byerly & Halloway LLP
SecureCom Inc.
Gresham Ford

2020 OBI Annual Meeting -- Save the Date!

Mark your calendars for Thursday, Feb. 13, for the OBI Annual Meeting and Lobby Day in Salem!
Help us tell your story. Send us your news at communications@oregonbusinessindustry.com. Here are a few headlines from OBI members.

- Oregon Business & Industry Manufacturing Day Features Eberhard’s Dairy
- Healthcare Organizations Join with County, City to Build Homeless Housing
- Intel poaches Cisco’s CMO
- PacifiCorp Proposes Less Coal, More Renewables

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

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.