



Regulatory Updates



Portland Gross Receipts Tax

Last November Portland voters approved a gross receipts tax on retailers. The one percent (1%) tax applies to all retailers with gross revenue over \$1 billion in the United States and over \$500,000 in gross revenue from retail sales within the city of Portland. Banking services are included in the definition of retail sales. The revenue from the tax is intended to be used for energy efficiency projects and workforce development, particularly targeted at lower-income neighborhoods and communities of color. OBI is partnering with affected retailers and other partners to push for clear guidance on how this new program will be

administered. The Portland Bureau of Revenue and Financial services has published the proposed changes to city code. Read more [here](#).

Legislative Outlook on Taxes

The 2019 legislative session began on Jan. 22 and legislative leaders are proposing several tax bills, including the potential for a statewide gross receipts tax. With a three-fifths Democratic supermajority in both chambers, it is highly likely new tax increases or tax programs will pass. [Click here](#) to read more about what OBI sees on the horizon.

As California goes, so goes Oregon?

Oregon has a habit of replicating policies first passed in California; this year is no exception. We already followed California's lead on low carbon fuel standards, now legislators are looking at a variety of policies that recently passed in California. This session we expect lawmakers to consider [carbon pricing](#), [paid family leave](#) and [technology privacy regulation](#). We will continue to update you as these conversations progress.

Plastic Bags

While several Oregon cities have adopted bans on plastic bags, efforts to pass a statewide ban have met resistance. This legislative session, legislators are once again pursuing a ban. [Click here](#) to read this year's bill to establish a statewide ban on single-use bags. [Click here](#) to read the proposed tax on plastic bags.

Household Hazardous Materials Stewardship

Legislators are, once again, considering a bill that will require manufacturers and retailers to participate in and pay for a household hazardous materials stewardship program. The program would be overseen by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). [Click here](#) to read the bill.



Retail News

[National Retail Federation's winter report on consumer behavior](#)

[Impact of Federal Shutdown on Oregon Craft Beer](#)



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