

**State Representative
Phil Barnhart
House District 11**

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Kim Thatcher
House District 25**



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***Economic Development Tax Breaks Could be Posted on
Transparency Website Under New Law Passed by Oregon Senate***

(Salem) [House Bill 2825](#), a bill to add more transparency to state spending, was unanimously adopted by the Oregon Senate today. The measure was drafted by [State Representative Phil Barnhart](#) (D-Central Lane and Linn Counties) and [State Representative Kim Thatcher](#) (R-Keizer, Newberg, St. Paul).

The measure now moves to Governor Kitzhaber's desk for his signature. HB 2825 calls for tax incentives provided to economic development projects to be included in the Oregon Transparency Website (www.oregon.gov/transparency).

Rep. Barnhart addressed the significance of the bill, stating, "this is one more important step in opening government expenditures to public scrutiny."

"The state spends a lot of time picking winners and losers," noted Thatcher. "It takes money provided by one group of taxpayers and gives it to another. Those taxpayers deserve to see what's going on."

"The taxpaying public needs easy access to information describing how our tax dollars are being spent, who receives these benefits and for what purposes. This website will provide that access and transparency that Oregonians deserve," said co-sponsor Rep. Paul Holvey (D- the Emerald Empire).

The legislation covers a variety of economic development programs from the Business Energy Tax Credit and Enterprise Zones to the film production tax credits. Information about the various tax breaks to be posted to the website includes the name of the companies receiving the tax incentives, the amount received, the outcomes required by the tax expenditure program and whether the requirements are being met."

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