



2019 Legislative Session Summary

THE GOOD

Representative Reschke — Chief Sponsor Bills — Passed

- HB 2847** Includes Sky Lakes physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, certified registered nurse anesthetists, podiatrists, dentists, and optometrists to be able to take advantage of Oregon's rural medical provider tax credit.
- HB 2867** Saved special funding for small rural high schools in Klamath County School District. Schools effected: Bonanza, Chiloquin, Gilchrist, Lost River.
- HB 3030** Makes it easier for spouses of military members, including Kingsley Field, to enter the workforce if a professional license is required for employment.
- HB 3061** Removed a technical legal barrier so high speed broadband (up to 1 Gbit speeds) can be delivered to Merrill and Malin using existing network infrastructure.



Bills Assisting Southern Klamath & Lake Counties

- HB 2164** Tax Credit for Short Line Railroad operators: Goose Lake Railway, Lake County
- HB 5050** Funding for an in-stream water meter in the upper Klamath Basin; and Funding for Klamath Falls Lutheran Community Services Relief Nursery.
- SB 3** Allows Klamath Community College to apply for and offer 4-year, technical baccalaureate, degrees.

Bills Prevented from Passing

- HB 2020** Cap & Trade. Annual Cost: *~\$500-700/family.*
- HB 3063** Forced Child Vaccinations
- HB 2706** Theft of "The Kicker" from being returned to tax payers: *~\$400/tax payer.*
Theft of SAIF to pay for PERS
- SB 501** Gun Control Bill (also SB 978)
- HB 2495** Drastic increases to taxes on Timber Harvests
- HB 2656** Unworkable restrictions on Timber Harvest

THE BAD

- SB 608** Statewide Rent Control — first in the county. In response to this new law, development for new rental housing is already slowing.
- HB 2270** Massive tax increase on tobacco products: cigarettes, cigars and vaping. Voter approval Nov. 2020. Estimate: \$175 million/year. Increase of \$2.00/pack on cigarettes, doubling of cigar tax, new vaping tax.
- HB 2010** Increased tax on Private Medical Insurance to fund Medicaid (OHP) — including paying for those who do not have legal residency in the United States.
- HB 2164** Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) expanded for those not in the US legally. Also made voter referendum of HB 3427 impossible.
- SB 761** Eliminates gathering signatures on voter petitions by use of online “E-Sheets”. The result makes it more difficult for citizens to challenge a law passed by the legislature or to get a petition on the ballot.
- SB 861** Vote by mail paid postage. Estimated Cost: *\$1.5\$ million/year*

THE UGLY

- HB 3427** Gross Receipts Tax. Goes against Oregonians’ 59% No vote on Measure 97 in 2016. Special carve out for big Portland businesses. *~\$1,300/year increase in indirect taxation on average for working family of four.*
- HB 2015** Driver’s Cards for those who can’t provide documentation of legal residency. Goes against Oregonians’ 66% No vote on Measure 88 in 2014.
- SB 579** Expansion of Oregon’s assisted suicide law (eliminated waiting period, self-administered).

SUMMARY

In a little over **5 Months**, the 2019 Oregon Legislature (Democrat Super Majority and Democrat Governor) raised taxes nearly **\$5 Billion** — that’s in addition to record revenue. That is nearly a **\$600 increase/year** for every Oregonian.

What this means to Oregonians:

- ✦ *~\$1,160/year on average increase in direct and indirect taxes for a retired couple.*
- ✦ *~\$2,300/year on average increase in direct and indirect taxes for a working family of four.*
- ✦ *Gas tax up 4¢/gallon since 2017 and will auto-increase another 6¢/gallon by 2024.*
- ✦ *Minimum wage increase of \$1.50/hour since 2016 and will auto-increase another \$1.50/hour by 2022.*