



Representative Greg Smith

Serving Umatilla, Morrow, Gilliam, Sherman & Wasco Counties

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OLIS

Track legislation, agendas, or search the daily schedule of the Legislature.

Sine Die is Near for the 2015 Session

We are nearing the end of the 2015 Legislative Session. While many of the policy committees are shutting down, budget committees are going into overdrive. Also, multiple floor sessions are being held to help the process move along.

Depending on your perspective, this session has either been one that supports worker's rights or one taking responsibilities away from individuals and placing it on the back of our employers. In this newsletter, I am merely informing you of the recent debates and actions of the Legislature.

If you any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at 503-986-1457 or rep.gregsmith@state.or.us.

Best Regards,

Representative Greg Smith
District 57



OSU Beavers Infiltrate Smith Household First Smith Child Graduates from OSU

Congratulations to our son Matthew who graduated from Oregon State University's School of Mechanical, Industrial, and Manufacturing Engineering last week. He plans to pursue a Master's Degree in Thermal Fluid Science with OSU. **WE ARE PROUD OF YOU!**



Mandatory Paid Sick Leave Passes on Partisan Vote *Expected to Cost Oregon Employers \$914 Million*

[Senate Bill 454-B](#), partisan legislation that requires Oregon employers to provide paid sick leave for employees has passed both the Senate and House on strictly partisan votes. Republicans unanimously rejected the legislation, calling the proposals flawed and disproportionately burdensome on Oregon's natural resource and agriculture industries. House Republicans drew attention to the low 10-employee threshold mandates in the bill and lack of exemptions for agriculture, as well as the lone exemption in the bill for public-sector employee unions. Additionally, House Republicans expressed concerns about the impact of the legislation on rural communities, local business and youth employment, describing the measure as another example of government overreach and intervention in private industry. [Click here to view what SB 454 does and does not do.](#)

Who Joined Rep. Smith in Opposing this Bill:

Associated Oregon Industries (AOI), Oregon State Chamber of Commerce, National Federation of Independent Businesses (NFIB), Oregon Farm Bureau, Oregon Wheat League, Oregon Truckers Association, Oregon Metals Industry Council, Oregon Restaurant & Lodging Association, Oregon Dairy Farmers Association, Northwest Food Processors Association, Northwest Grocery Association & more...

Costly Retirement Mandate on Oregon Employers *Forces Additional Expenses Upon Employers*

[House Bill 2960-B](#) passed the House recently on a party line vote. This legislation creates the Oregon Retirement Savings Board within the State Treasurer's office at a price tag of \$993,541. Furthermore, the bill forces Oregon employers to offer a specified contribution retirement plan as defined by the Oregon Retirement Savings Board, if the employer does not already provide a qualified retirement plan. The bill is the latest proposal that seeks to dramatically alter the employer-employee relationship by stacking one costly mandate on top of another upon Oregon employers and small businesses.

House Republicans unanimously rejected the partisan legislation on the grounds that it will only serve as a costly and burdensome mandate on employers while doing nothing to address the long-term, systemic failure of the state to increase individual and family incomes.

Spotlight: Who is NFIB?

[National Federation of Independent Business \(NFIB\)](#)

is 350,000 small and independent employers united by one clear mission: to promote and protect your right to own, operate and grow your business.



[Click here to view a legislative update from NFIB Oregon State Director, Jan Meekcoms.](#)

Spotlight: Advocating for Oregon's Employers



[Click here](#) or the image above to view video.

Our House Republican Leader Mike McLane (Powell Butte) shares House Republican frustration regarding the attitude toward employers in Oregon. After this debate, we then proposed pulling the following bills to the floor for a vote to help employers. All attempts were voted down along party lines. **We are trying!** ([Click here to view video.](#))

[HB 2390](#) (Failed 25-32)

[HB 2242](#) (Failed 26-31)

[HB 3313](#) (Failed 25-32)

[HB 2245](#) (Failed 26-31)

[HB 3457](#) (Failed 27-30)

[HB 3055](#) (Failed 25-32)

[HB 2752](#) (Failed 25-31)

Pirate Pride Shown at the State Capitol Riverside Jr./Sr. Students Visit Salem

This month students from Riverside Jr./Sr. High School in Boardman visited their State Capitol. Representative Greg Smith welcomed the students and took them into the House of Representatives to share how the legislative process works.

Students handed out “Pirate Pride” shirts to advocate for education and Riverside Jr./Sr. High School. “I now have my shirt proudly displayed in my personal office so everyone that comes to visit can see I have pirate pride,” said Rep. Smith.

In addition, Representative Smith helped coordinate visits for students to take a tour of the State Capitol, visit with Senator Bill Hansell, and have an audience with Governor Kate Brown.



Above: Riverside Jr./Sr. High School students present Representative Greg Smith with a “Pirate Pride” t-shirt.

Left: Representative Greg Smith with Riverside Jr./Sr. High School students on the Oregon State Capitol steps.



Congratulations to House District 57 High School Graduates!

McLoughlin High School, Hermiston High School, Umatilla High School, Stanfield Secondary School, Irrigon High School, Riverside High School, Heppner High School, Ione High School, Condon High School, Arlington High School, Sherman County High School

We are proud of you!