

DARRELL W. FULLER

Government Relations Association Management Public Relations

3340 Commercial St SE Ste 210 Salem Oregon 97302 (971) 388-1786 fuller_darrell@yahoo.com

MEMORANDUM

Date: February 12, 2017

To: Cathi Webb, NATA

From: Darrell W. Fuller



Re: FEBRUARY LOBBYIST UPDATE

I am hoping to produce a monthly report which you are welcome to use in any way that may be helpful: Post it on your website; add it to an email newsletter; put it in your magazine.

You are welcome to edit the length, or let me know how you would like it modified. I can also provide it to you as a Microsoft Word document at your request. I won't promise an article will be completed every month. But it is my goal.

Lobbyist Update for February, 2017

THE RODEO IS IN TOWN

By: Darrell W. Fuller / fuller_darrell@yahoo.com / 971-388-1786

The Oregon Legislature has been in session for only a few weeks, but they are already knee deep in acrimony. With more than \$1.3 billion in new revenue for the 2017-19 budget over the 2015-2017 budget, the state will still have \$1.7 billion less than what it needs to maintain current service levels. The \$3 billion increase is attributed mostly to roll up costs for health care and PERS contributions for public employees across the state. You read that correctly, Oregon's government needs an additional \$3 billion in the next two years just to keep doing what they did for the last two years.



Never mind that Oregon legislators are introducing hundreds of bills requiring the state to hire more people, create new programs and spend even more money the state simply doesn't have. To rectify the discrepancy, Democratic lawmakers have introduced dozens and dozens of bills to increase taxes or create new taxes to spend on new and existing state programs.

A TAX ON COFFEE AND CARS

Two new tax proposals have received a lot of media attention recently. One is a tax on coffee. A second is a tax on people who drive cars which are over twenty years old. Democratic leaders quickly announced that the older car tax was dead on arrival. It likely won't even get a hearing. In fact, the bill, which was introduced by the House Revenue Committee, is a bit of an orphan. No individual, legislator or interest group has so far claimed credit for requesting the bill's introduction. The coffee tax, on the other hand, seems to have some support.

DO YOU KNOW ANY OF THESE NEW PEOPLE IN SALEM?

Amongst veteran lawmakers, staffers and lobbyists are seventeen legislators new to the Capitol in Salem. They chose a particularly sour time to enter Oregon politics. If you know any of these new legislators listed below, would you please let your lobbyist know that you know them? It could be very helpful at some point in the future. You can reach your lobbyist at fuller_darrell@yahoo.com.

Senator Alan DeBoer, Republican, Ashland
Replaced: Dr. Alan Bates, DO, Democrat
Occupation: Auto dealer

Senator Dennis Lithicum, Republican, Klamath Falls
Replaced: Dr. Doug Whitsett, DVM, Republican
Occupation: Software developer

Senator James Manning, Democrat, Eugene
Replaced: Chris Edwards, Democrat
Occupation: Retired, US Army

Representative Janelle Bynum, Democrat, Happy Valley
Replaced: Shemia Fagan, Democrat
Occupation: McDonald's franchisee

Representative Julie Fahey, Democrat, Eugene
Replaced: Val Hoyle, Democrat
Occupation: Business and nonprofit consultant

Representative Diego Hernandez, Democrat, Portland
Replaced: Jessica Vega Pederson, Democrat
Occupation: Executive director of Momentum Alliance

Representative Teresa Alonso Leon, Democrat, Woodburn
Replaced: Betty Komp, Democrat
Occupation: State GED Administrator

Representative Sheri Malstrom, Democrat, Beaverton

Replaced: Tobias Read, Democrat

Occupation: Retired public health nurse

Representative Pam Marsh, Democrat, Ashland

Replaced: Peter Buckley, Democrat

Occupation: Executive Director of Ashland Emergency Food Bank

Representative Mark Meek, Democrat, Gladstone

Replaced: Brent Barton, Democrat

Occupation: Owner/Principal Broker of Summa Real Estate

Representative Ron Noble, Republican, McMinnville

Replaced: Jim Weidner

Occupation: Director of public safety for Linfield College

Representative Karin Power, Democrat, Milwaukie

Replaced: Kathleen Taylor

Occupation: Environmental attorney for The Freshwater Trust

Representative Werner Reschke, Republican, Klamath Falls

Replaced: Gail Whitsett, Republican

Occupation: Owner of Wrinkledog, an online marketing company

Representative Tawna Sanchez, Democrat, Portland

Replaced: Lew Frederick, Democrat

Occupation: Director of family services for NAYA Family Services

Representative David Brock Smith, Republican, Port Orford

Replaced: Wayne Krieger, Republican

Occupation: Curry County Commissioner

Representative Richard Vial, Republican, Wilsonville

Replaced: John Davis

Occupation: Lawyer

Representative Janeen Sollman, Democrat, Hillsboro

Replaced: Joe Gallegos, Democrat

Occupation: Recycling specialist for Vernier Software & Technology

The Oregon Constitution requires the Legislative Assembly to adopt a balanced budget and end the session before midnight on July 10th. If they are unsuccessful, they will have to call

themselves back into a special session to complete their work. The current state budget cycle actually ends on June 30th.

If you have any thoughts or questions about the information I've provided, please let me know. I always appreciate hearing from my clients. You can email me at fuller_darrell@yahoo.com or call me at 971-388-1786.