

FULL TEXT OF BALLOT TITLES—NOVEMBER 8, 2016

COLUMBIA COUNTY • STATE OF OREGON

ONLY THE CAPTION AND QUESTION WILL APPEAR ON YOUR OFFICIAL BALLOT AND ONLY THE APPROPRIATE MEASURES FOR EACH PRECINCT WILL APPEAR ON THAT PRECINCT'S BALLOT.

STATE MEASURES

Referred to the People
by the Legislative Assembly

94 Amends Constitution: Eliminates mandatory retirement age for state judges

Result of “Yes” Vote: “Yes” vote amends constitution, state judges not required to retire from judicial office after turning 75 years old. Statutes cannot establish mandatory retirement age.

Result of “No” Vote: “No” vote retains constitutional provisions requiring state judges to retire from judicial office after turning 75 years old, authorizing statutes establishing lesser mandatory retirement age.

Summary: Article VII (Amended), section 1a, of the Oregon Constitution, requires state judges to “retire from judicial office at the end of the calendar year” in which they turn 75 years old. Section 1a(1) authorizes laws that establish a lesser age—not younger than 70 years—for mandatory retirement. Measure amends constitution to remove provision requiring mandatory retirement at age 75, as well as provision authorizing statutes requiring mandatory retirement at age 70 or older. Measure retains constitutional provision that authorizes statutes permitting retired judges to be recalled to temporary active service. Measure retains constitutional provision that authorizes laws permitting or requiring judges to retire due to a physical or mental disability or any other cause that renders them incapable of performing their judicial duties.

Estimate of Financial Impact: There is no financial impact to state revenue or expenditures. There is no financial impact on local government revenue or expenditures.

95 Amends Constitution: Allows investments in equities by public universities to reduce financial risk and increase investments to benefit students.

Result of “Yes” Vote: “Yes” vote allows public universities to invest in equities to reduce financial risk and increase funds available to help students.

Result of “No” Vote: “No” vote prevents public universities from investing in equities.

Summary: This measure allows investments in equities by public universities to reduce financial risk and increase investments to benefit students. Additional investment income could benefit students by minimizing tuition increases and enhancing student programs.

Estimate of Financial Impact: This measure amends Article XI, section 6 of the Oregon Constitution to exempt public universities from a constitutional prohibition on ownership by the State of stock of any company, association, or corporation.

There is no financial effect on either state or local government expenditures or revenues required by the measure. The revenue and expenditure impact on public universities is dependent upon decisions by each university on the type and amount of private equity in which they choose (or choose not) to invest, and on the return on these investments.

96 Amends Constitution: Dedicates 1.5% of state lottery net proceeds to funding support services for Oregon veterans

Result of “Yes” Vote: “Yes” vote dedicates 1.5% of state lottery net proceeds to fund veterans’ services, including assistance with employment, education, housing, and physical/mental health care.

Result of “No” Vote: “No” vote retains current list of authorized purposes for spending state lottery net proceeds; 1.5% dedication to fund veterans’ services not required.

Summary: Amends Constitution, dedicates lottery funding for veterans’ support services. Currently, constitution requires that state lottery proceeds be used to create jobs, further economic development, and finance public education; dedicates some net lottery proceeds as follows: 18% to finance education stability fund, 15% to finance state parks, restoration and protection of native fish and wildlife, watersheds, water quality and wildlife habitats, 15% to finance school capital matching fund. Measure dedicates 1.5% of lottery net proceeds to fund services for Oregon veterans. Veterans’ services include assistance with employment, education, housing, physical/mental health care, addiction treatment, reintegration, access to government benefits, and other services for veterans, spouses and dependents. Other provisions.

Estimate of Financial Impact: This referral amends the Oregon Constitution to dedicate 1.5% of net proceeds from the State Lottery to be deposited in a veteran’s services fund, to be created by the Legislature. The money in the veteran’s services fund is to be expended on veterans’ services, which may include: (1) reintegration, employment, education benefits and tuition, housing, physical and mental health care and addiction treatment programs; (2) assistance for veterans or their dependents to access state and federal benefits; or (3) funding for services provided by county veterans’ services officers, campus veterans’ service officer or nonprofit or tribal veterans’ services officers. The referral defines a veteran as a resident of the State of Oregon who served in the Armed Forces of the United States.

Based on the June 2016 forecast from the Office of Economic Analysis 1.5% of net lottery proceeds for veterans’ services would be approximately \$9.3 million annually for the 2017-19 biennium. This measure would not have an impact on the constitutionally dedicated amounts for the Educational Stability Fund or the Parks and Natural Resources Fund. The measure does not affect the overall amount of funds collected for or expended by state government. The measure would result in an expenditure shift of \$9.3 million annually, during the 2017-19 biennium, to the Veterans’ Services Fund from economic development and public education expenditures.

Proposed by Initiative Petition

97 Increases corporate minimum tax when sales exceed \$25 million; funds education, healthcare, senior services

Result of “Yes” Vote: “Yes” vote increases corporate minimum tax when sales exceed \$25 million; removes tax limit; exempts “benefit companies”; increased revenue funds education, healthcare, senior services.

Result of “No” Vote: “No” vote retains existing corporate minimum tax rates based on Oregon sales; tax limited to \$100,000; revenue not dedicated to education, healthcare, senior services.

Summary: Current law requires each corporation or affiliated group of corporations filing a federal tax return to pay annual minimum tax; amount of tax is determined by tax bracket corresponding to amount of corporation’s Oregon sales; corporations with sales of \$100 million or more pay \$100,000. Measure increases annual minimum tax on corporations with Oregon sales of more than \$25 million; imposes minimum tax of \$30,001 plus 2.5% of amount of sales above \$25 million; eliminates tax cap; benefit companies (business entities that create public benefit) taxed under current law. Applies to tax years beginning on/after January 1, 2017. Revenue from tax increase goes to: public education (early childhood through grade 12); healthcare; services for senior citizens.

Estimate of Financial Impact: The measure is anticipated to increase state revenues by \$548 million from January 1st to June 30th of 2017, and approximately \$3 billion for every year beginning July 1st after that.

The financial impact on state expenditures by program is indeterminate. The increased revenue will require increased expenditures by the state in the areas of public early childhood and kindergarten through grade 12 education, health care, and senior services, but the exact amount and the specific uses within the three identified programs cannot be determined.

Although there is no direct financial effect on local government expenditures or revenues, there is likely to be an indirect and indeterminate effect on the state economy and local government revenues and expenditures.

98 Requires state funding for dropout-prevention, career and college readiness programs in Oregon high schools

Result of “Yes” Vote: “Yes” vote requires state legislature to fund dropout-prevention, career and college readiness programs through grants to Oregon high schools; state monitors programs.

Result of “No” Vote: “No” vote retains current law: legislature not required to commit funds to career-technical/college-level education/dropout-prevention programs, retains discretion to allocate funds.

Summary: Currently, the Oregon legislature provides General Fund revenues to the State School Fund based on constitutionally required quality goals; those funds are distributed directly to school districts under a specified formula. Measure requires legislature to separately provide at least \$800 per high school student—adjusted upward annually for inflation/population—to a Department of Education (ODE) administered account. ODE distributes those funds to school districts to establish or expand high school programs providing career-technical education, college-level courses, and dropout-prevention strategies. School districts must apply for grants, meet specified requirements. Districts may use limited portion of fund for administration costs but not unrelated activities. ODE monitors school district performance, ensures compliance, facilitates programs; Secretary of State audits biannually. Other provisions.

Estimate of Financial Impact: The measure does not affect the aggregate amount of funds collected or expended by state or local government.

The measure does, however, commit a minimum increase of \$147 million annually to expenditures on career and technical education, accelerated learning and high school graduation improvement programs. This number could be lower if state revenues do not grow by \$1.5 billion in the 2017-2019 biennium.

Because the measure does not raise additional revenue, the measure specifically provides that the Legislature determine how these program expansions will be funded.

99 Creates “Outdoor School Education Fund,” continuously funded through Lottery, to provide outdoor school programs statewide

Result of “Yes” Vote: “Yes” vote creates separate fund, financed through Oregon Lottery Economic Development Fund and administered by Oregon State University (OSU), to provide outdoor school programs statewide.

Result of “No” Vote: “No” vote rejects creation of fund to provide outdoor school programs statewide; retains current law under which OSU administers outdoor school grants if funding available.

Summary: Presently, Oregon does not fund outdoor school programs statewide, but, under current law, OSU assists school districts by awarding grants according to specified criteria and providing program maintenance, conditioned on funding. Measure creates separate “Outdoor School Education Fund” (Fund) that is financed by Oregon State Lottery money distributed for economic development. Caps annual distributions of Lottery revenues to Fund. Specifies Fund’s purpose to provide every Oregon fifth- or sixth-grade student week-long outdoor school program or equivalent. Continuously appropriates Fund to OSU to administer and fund outdoor school programs statewide consistent with current law’s grant program criteria; may require Fund dispersal outside of grant program. Allocations to Fund shall not reduce lottery proceeds dedicated under Oregon Constitution to education, parks, beaches, watersheds, fish, wildlife.

Estimate of Financial Impact: This measure amends Oregon Revised Statutes to dedicate a portion of lottery proceeds for a statewide outdoor school program. In 2015, the Oregon State Legislature established an Outdoor Education Account for the purpose of funding a six day, residential, hands-on outdoor school program or equivalent for fifth and sixth grade students across the state. The Legislature did not provide funding at that time. This measure would affect distributions from the Department of Administrative Services Economic Development Fund. It dedicates the lesser of the following two amounts to the Outdoor Education account: either four percent of the quarterly transfers to this fund or \$5.5 million quarterly, with a maximum of \$22 million each year.

The measure would result in an expenditure shift of \$22 million annually to the Outdoor Education Account from the Department of Administrative Services Economic Development Fund. The measure does not affect the overall amount of funds collected for or expended by state government. This measure would not have an impact on the constitutionally dedicated amounts for the Educational Stability Fund or the Parks and Natural Resources Fund.

100 Prohibits purchase or sale of parts or products from certain wildlife species; exceptions; civil penalties

Result of “Yes” Vote: “Yes” vote prohibits purchase/sale of parts/products from certain wildlife species; exceptions for specified activities, gift/inheritances, and certain antiques/musical instruments; civil penalties.

Result of “No” Vote: Maintains current Oregon law which does not prohibit purchase or sale of parts or products from species not native to Oregon, except for shark fins.

Summary: Existing Oregon law does not prohibit sale of wildlife parts/products for non native species, except shark fins. Existing federal law does not prohibit intrastate sales of wildlife parts, with exceptions. Measure amends ORS 498.022 to prohibit purchase, sale, or possession with intent to sell of parts/products from elephant, rhinoceros, whale, tiger, lion, leopard, cheetah, jaguar, pangolin, sea turtle, shark, ray. Imposes civil penalties. Creates exceptions: law enforcement activities; activities authorized by federal law; fish managed under federal plan; certain antiques (over 100 years old) and musical instruments with less than 200 grams of parts; noncommercial transfers through estates, trusts, gifts; possession by tribal members. Other exceptions. Fish and Wildlife Commission may adopt rules, including prohibiting purchase/sale of parts “closely” resembling listed species parts.

Estimate of Financial Impact: There is less than a \$100,000 financial effect on state government expenditures or revenues. There is no financial effect on local government expenditures or revenues.

COLUMBIA COUNTY

5-255 Depletion Fee Increase for Safer Roads, Bridges, and CCRider Transportation.

Question: Shall the County Natural Resource Depletion fee be increased by thirty-five cents for roads, bridges and Columbia County Rider?

Summary: Columbia County Ordinance No. 90-20 sets the Natural Resources Depletion Fee at fifteen cents (\$.15) per ton. The fee provides revenue for county roads. This initiative increases the depletion fee by thirty-five cents (\$.35) per ton, a total of fifty cents (\$.50) per ton. The thirty-five cent increase shall be used as follows:

- Ten cents (\$.10) for improvements and maintenance of existing roads and bridges;
- Twenty-five cents (\$.25) for CC Rider Transportation.

The initiative prohibits other uses of these funds.

Other provisions include:

- The depletion fee rate shall be adjusted annually based on the consumer price index for the Portland Metropolitan area.
- Any operator identified by Ordinance 90-20 shall be audited at least every three years to determine accuracy of records and fees.
- Any public official who fails to implement or enforce any part of this ordinance shall be guilty of a Class B violation under Oregon law and may be sued in Circuit Court.
- This Ordinance is effective upon passage and may be changed only by majority vote at a county-wide election.

5-256 Renewal of Police Protection Services Local Option Tax

Question: Shall City of Columbia City renew the five-year operating levy of \$0.67 per \$1,000 assessed value beginning in 2017-18? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

Summary: The City’s current five-year levy of \$0.67 per \$1,000 assessed value is in its fifth and final year and will expire after the 2016-17 tax year. The City uses the tax revenues from the current levy to provide basic police protection services.

In order to continue to provide basic police protection services, the City is requesting a renewal of the five-year operating levy of \$0.67 per \$1,000 assessed value. The City will continue to use tax revenues from this measure to provide basic police protection services.

Over the five-year period, the levy will raise approximately \$580,694 for police protection services.

The proposed rate will raise approximately \$110,475 in 2017-18, \$113,237 in 2018-19, \$116,068 in 2019-20, \$118,970 in 2020-21, and \$121,944 in 2021-22, for a total of \$580,694. The levy would then expire.

For a home assessed at a value of \$200,000 the annual cost of this levy would be \$134 per year.

5-257 Renewal of Local Option Levy for Jail Operations-Four Years

Question: Shall Columbia County renew a levy of \$0.5797/\$1000.00 of assessed value for four years beginning in 2017-2018 for Jail operations? This measure renews current local option taxes.

Summary: In 2014, voters approved a three year levy for Jail operations which will expire in 2017.

The three primary funding sources for the Jail are the County’s General Fund, Federal bed rentals, and the existing Jail operating levy. Since the 2014 levy passed, the County General Fund support for the Jail has remained consistent. Federal bed rental revenue has also remained stable but is not a guaranteed revenue source. The County still cannot fully fund operation of the Jail without renewal of the levy.

Prior to the 2014 levy, the County was required to reduce Jail beds for local inmates to 25, and anticipated a full closure of the Jail without the levy. The operating levy currently supports a total of 100 local beds, and funding for the constitutionally required food, clothing, management and health care for inmates. Renewal of the levy will pay for continued operation of the Jail through 2021.

The estimated money raised will be \$2,635,299 in FY 2018, \$2,708,501 in FY 2019, \$2,783,737 in FY 2020, and \$2,861,063 in FY 2021, for an estimated total levy of \$10,988,600.

5-258 Imposes county tax on the retail sale of marijuana items

Question: Shall Columbia County impose a three percent (3%) tax on the retail sale of marijuana items in unincorporated Columbia County?

Summary: Under state law, a county governing body may adopt an ordinance to be referred to the voters imposing up to a three percent tax or fee on the retail sale of marijuana items in unincorporated areas of the county by a state licensed marijuana retailer.

If this measure is adopted, it would approve Columbia County Ordinance No. 2016-3, which imposes a three percent (3%) tax on the retail sale of marijuana items in the unincorporated area of the county by a state licensed marijuana retailer. The marijuana retailer will collect the tax at the point of sale and remit the tax collected to the County. The ordinance also provides for the collection, administration and enforcement of the tax. If the measure is adopted, the ordinance will be effective January 1, 2017.

CITY OF RAINIER

5-264 Imposes city tax on marijuana retailer's sale of marijuana items

Question: Shall City impose a tax on the sale of marijuana items by a marijuana retailer in the City?

Summary: Under State law, a city council may adopt an ordinance to be referred to the voters of the city imposing up to a three percent tax or fee on the sale of marijuana items in the city by a licensed marijuana retailer.

If this measure is adopted, it would approve a Rainier Ordinance imposing a tax on the sale of marijuana items in the city by a licensed marijuana retailer. The tax amount would be the maximum amount allowed under State law, which is currently three percent (3%). The tax would be collected at the point of sale and remitted by the marijuana retailer. The measure also includes provisions regarding collection, administration and enforcement of the tax.

Under State law, a city that adopts an ordinance that prohibits the establishment of certain marijuana registrants and licensees in the city may not impose a tax or fee on marijuana items. The City of Rainier has not adopted such an ordinance.

CITY OF SCAPPOOSE

5-261 Imposes city tax on marijuana retailer's sale of marijuana items

Question: Shall City impose a tax on the sale of marijuana items by a marijuana retailer in the City?

Summary: Under state law, a city council may adopt an ordinance to be referred to the voters of the city imposing up to a three percent tax or fee on the sale of marijuana items in the city by a licensed marijuana retailer.

If this measure is adopted, it would approve a Scappoose Ordinance imposing a tax on the sale of marijuana items in the city by a licensed marijuana retailer. The tax amount would be the maximum amount allowed under state law, which is currently three percent (3%). The tax would be collected at the point of sale and remitted by the marijuana retailer. The measure also includes provisions regarding collection, administration and enforcement of the tax.

Under state law, a city that adopts an ordinance that prohibits the establishment of certain marijuana registrants and licensees in the city may not impose a tax or fee on marijuana items. Scappoose has adopted such an ordinance and referred it to the voters. If approved, this measure imposing a tax on marijuana sales would become operative only if the measure prohibiting marijuana establishments does not pass by a majority of votes.

5-262 Prohibits recreational marijuana retailers and businesses; prohibits medical marijuana processors.

Question: Shall Scappoose prohibit recreational marijuana retailers, producers, processors wholesalers and prohibit medical marijuana processors, while allowing medical marijuana dispensaries?

Summary: This measure does not affect legal medical marijuana dispensaries. State law allows operation of registered medical marijuana processors, medical marijuana dispensaries and licensed recreational marijuana producers, processors, wholesalers, and retailers. State law provides that a city council may adopt an ordinance to be referred as a measure to voters to prohibit the establishment of any of those registered or licensed marijuana activities.

Approval of this measure would approve Scappoose Ordinance No. 852, which would prohibit medical marijuana processors, recreational marijuana producers, processors, wholesalers, and retailers from locating in areas subject to the City's jurisdiction.

This measure would not affect individual use; individuals will continue to be able to use and possess marijuana products in Scappoose in accordance with state law.

If this measure is approved, the City will not receive any state disbursements of marijuana tax revenue. The City would also be unable to impose a local tax or fee on the production, processing or sale of marijuana or products that incorporate marijuana.

CITY OF ST. HELENS

5-260 Imposes city tax on marijuana retailer's sale of marijuana items

Question: Shall City impose a tax on the sale of marijuana items by a marijuana retailer in the City?

Summary: Under state law, a city council may adopt an ordinance to be referred to the voters of the city imposing up to a three percent tax or fee on the sale of marijuana items in the city by a licensed marijuana retailer.

If this measure is adopted, it would approve a St. Helens Ordinance imposing a tax on the sale of marijuana items in the city by a licensed marijuana retailer. The tax amount would be the maximum amount allowed under state law, which is currently three percent (3%). The tax would be collected at the point of sale and remitted by the marijuana retailer. The measure also includes provisions regarding collection, administration and enforcement of the tax.

ST. HELENS SCHOOL DISTRICT

5-263 Bonds to construct classrooms and schools; safety improvements, update technology

Question: Shall District construct, repair classrooms, schools; improve safety, technology; estimated to maintain current bond tax rate by issuing \$49,635,000 bonds? If the bonds are approved, they will be payable from taxes on property or property ownership that are not subject to the limits of sections 11 and 11b, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

Summary: If approved, St. Helens School District bonds would fund construction, renovation, furnishing and equipping of schools and classrooms; improved access to technology; safety and security improvements; repairs. The District estimates that given expiring debt current District bond tax rates will not increase. The District may be awarded \$4 million in State matching funds if this measure is approved and matching funds are available. Independent audits, citizen oversight required.

Projects include:

- Replace St. Helens Middle School with construction phases allowing students to remain onsite
- Renovate St. Helens High School including new classrooms, repairs and security improvements
- Replace alternative high school modular campus with a permanent structure onsite
- Site and building improvements; demolition
- Payment of interest
- Technology, safety and security improvements
- Bond issuance costs

Bond maturity will not exceed 26 years from date of issuance and may be issued in one or more series. The estimated District bond levy tax rate will remain unchanged at approximately \$1.38 per \$1,000 of assessed value. Actual tax rates may differ, depending on interest rates incurred and change in assessed value.

VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT

5-259 Campus Completion, Facility Enhancements, Technology Upgrades and Construction Debt.

Question: Shall Vernonia Schools enhance facilities and refinance debt by issuing \$6,800,000 in bonds, receiving up to \$2,700,000 matching State grant? If the bonds are approved, they will be payable from taxes on property or property ownership that are not subject to the limits of sections 11 and 11b, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

Summary: Up to \$2,700,000 in matching State grants are awarded to the District if voters approve this measure. If rejected, grants will be diverted to another district. A major portion of the bonds will refinance existing debt, thereby freeing up resources for general operations.

Bond and grant proceeds are also expected to fund:

Construction:

- four classrooms; one for art
- welding/metals shop building
- playground equipment at Mist and Vernonia Schools
- additional solar panels
- football field, track, stadium and parking area
- lighting of baseball/softball fields
- cross-country/fitness/nature trail
- Indoor walking track in gym

Upgrades:

- Mist interior and exterior: roof, gutters, siding, gym floor and classrooms
- security/surveillance systems at Mist and Vernonia
- mechanical systems at Mist
- Improved technology
- Install well and Irrigation
- enhanced lighting systems
- site improvements, furnishing and equipping of projects and bond issuance costs

Bonds would mature in not to exceed 26 years. The estimated incremental tax rate is approximately \$0.24 per \$1,000 of assessed property value above November 2016 levels. Actual rates may differ based upon interest rates incurred and growth in assessed value.

COMPLETE AND RETURN YOUR BALLOT

CHECK YOUR BALLOT VOTE BOTH SIDES OF YOUR BALLOT SECRECY ENVELOPE (OPTIONAL)

- Put Ballot In Your Optional Secrecy Envelope
- If You Overlook This Process And Omit The Secrecy Envelope, Your Vote Will Still Be Counted

SIGNATURE RETURN ENVELOPE

- Put Ballot (In The Optional Secrecy Envelope Or By Itself) Into Signature Return Envelope
- Be Sure To Sign Your Signature Return Envelope

RETURN YOUR BALLOT

Your ballot must be received in the Columbia County Elections Office, or at an official drop site, by 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday November 8th, 2016 in order to be counted. Postmarks do not count.

Return by mail. The Postal Service recommends that voters mail ballots one week before the due date to account for any unforeseen events or weather issues and to allow for timely receipt and processing by election officials.

Use a Drop Site. For all official Oregon drop sites visit www.oregonvotes.org

COLUMBIA COUNTY BALLOT DROP SITE LOCATIONS

Columbia County Courthouse

Elections Department
230 Strand St, St. Helens
Hours: M–Th 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Election Day: 7:00 AM – 8:00 PM

24-Hour Drive-up Drop Box

Located outside of 230 Strand St
Election Day: Up to 8:00 PM

Scappoose City Hall

24-Hour Drop Box
Located outside of 33568 E. Columbia Ave
Election Day: Up to 8:00 PM

Mist-Birkenfeld RFPD

12525 Oregon Highway 202, Mist
Hours: M–Th 9:00 AM – 5 PM
Election Day: 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM

Vernonia Public Library

701 Weed Ave, Vernonia
Hours: M/W/F 10:00 AM – 5 PM
Tu–Th 1:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Sat 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Election Day: 12:00 PM–8:00 PM

Clatskanie Library

11 Lillich St, Clatskanie
Hours: M–W 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Th–Sat 10:00 AM – 5:30 PM
Election Day: 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM

Rainier City Hall

106 B St West, Rainier
Hours: M–F 9:00 AM – 5 PM
Election Day: 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM