



CAPITOL COMMENTS

*State Legislative Bulletin of the
Oregon Bankers Association*

January 23, 2007

Bill Tracking

OBA is using a new bill tracking system this legislative session: BillTrackOR. We are pleased to offer our members access to bills we are tracking as they move through the State House and Senate. Attached you will find instructions for accessing this information, and you will also be able to link to this site through the OBA website.

(<http://www.billtrackor.com/billTrackOR/login.aspx>, User Name: oba, Password: legislation)

Legislative Overview

Corporate Taxes

With democrats controlling both the House and Senate for the first time in over 15 years, corporate taxation has made its way to the top tier of issues to be addressed in the 2007 legislative session. Both the House and Senate Revenue Committees are considering not only eliminating the corporate kicker going forward, but also keeping the projected corporate kicker from the current biennium, currently estimated to be as high as 67% of corporate taxes paid in 2007. Other corporate tax issues scheduled for debate include increasing the corporate minimum tax, revisiting a voluntary compliance initiative that failed in the waning hours of the 2005 legislative session, as well as broad changes to the way banks are taxed.

Class Action Claims

Also returning from the 2005 session is legislation from the Attorney General that would deposit any excess funds not paid out in a class action suit to the general fund for education. Currently, if a class action defendant is found, for example, to owe \$5 million, but only \$3 million is actually paid out, the \$2 million remains with the defendant. The AG's proposal would require the defendant to pay the \$2 million to a fund providing more funding for elementary education. The AG is also attempting again to pass legislation that would add unlawful debt collection practices to Oregon's Unfair Trade Practices Act.

Consumer Protection

Focusing on consumer protections this session, the Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS) has introduced bills regulating check cashers (not including banks), pawnbrokers and title lenders. Title lenders will be, if the bill passes, under the same law as the one passed during last year's special session for payday lenders. Representatives of the title lending companies stated last week at a legislative hearing that if this legislation became law, they would be put out of business in Oregon. Additionally, DCBS has introduced a consumer finance bill codifying recently adopted consumer finance rules. DCBS is taking this unusual step

because some payday lenders have said they do not believe DCBS had the authority to write and implement the recently adopted rules.

OBA- Sponsored Legislation

OBA's first of six bills, SB 447, was introduced last week in the Senate Judiciary Committee. This bill makes it a crime to steal and use a deceased person's personal information for the purpose of committing identity theft. This bill should be in print shortly.

Credit Unions

We have also heard, but have not yet seen, that credit unions will be introducing three bills this session. One would grant them the authority to take unlimited public fund deposits. The second bill would change the method in which garnishments are processed by financial institutions. The last bill would make several potentially substantive changes to the Credit Union Act. We will carefully analyze these bills when they are introduced.

Rules Changing in House and Senate

The start of the 74th legislative session began with rule changes in both the state House and Senate, which will affect the way organizations, such as the Oregon Bankers Association, conduct business when communicating with Legislators. Privately funded travel, restaurant meals and gifts over \$10 are among items on the table that lawmakers are in the process of banning.

The Senate and House both passed resolution SCR 1 which calls for the current legislative session to adjourn by June 29 and lawmakers will return to Salem for a special 20-day session beginning in February 2008. These changes were adopted on the recommendation of the Public Commission of the Oregon Legislature, a group appointed by Senate President, Peter Courtney, to analyze existing legislative procedures. It is hoped that working within different timing structures will improve the Legislature's ability to oversee state agencies, construct policy and approve budgets.

Do You Know a Key Committee Member?

Committee assignments have been appointed for the 2007 Legislative Session. It is important that we keep in touch with our representatives, and you can help by filling out the attached Political Contact Survey. Listed below are some key committees that affect our industry. For a complete listing of committees, please visit the Oregon State Legislature's website at: <http://www.leg.state.or.us/>.

Senate

Business, Transportation and Workforce Development

Chair: Rick Metsger, Vice-Chair: Bruce Starr, Ryan Deckert, Larry George, Laurie Monnes Anderson

Commerce

Chair: Floyd Prozanski, Vice-Chair: Roger Beyer, Brad Avakian, Avel Gordly, Rod Monroe

Finance and Revenue

Chair: Ryan Deckert, Vice-Chair: Gary George, Ginny Burdick, Rod Monroe, Bruce Starr

Judiciary

Chair: Ginny Burdick, Vice-Chair: Roger Beyer, Jeff Kruse, Floyd Prozanski, Vicki L Walker

Rules

Chair: Kate Brown, Vice-Chair: Ted Ferrioli, Betsy Johnson, Laurie Monnes Anderson, David Nelson

House**Business and Labor**

Chair: Mike Schaufler, Vice-Chair: Sal Esquivel, Vice-Chair: Paul Holvey, Vicki Berger, Chris Edwards, Diane Rosenbaum, Patti Smith

Consumer Protection

Chair: Paul Holvey, Vice-Chair: Suzanne Bonamici, Vice-Chair: Donna G Nelson, Larry Galizio, Vic Gilliam, Chuck Riley, Patti Smith

Judiciary

Chair: Greg Macpherson, Vice-Chair: Jeff Barker, Vice-Chair: Gene Whisnant, Suzanne Bonamici, Kevin Cameron, Linda Flores, Betty Komp, Wayne Krieger, Tobias Read

Revenue

Chair: Phil Barnhart, Vice-Chair: Tom Butler, Vice-Chair: Tobias Read, Vicki Berger, Scott Bruun, Sara Gelser, Andy Olson, Diane Rosenbaum, Brad Witt

Workforce and Economic Development

Chair: Brad Witt, Vice-Chair: John Lim, Vice-Chair: Chuck Riley, Phil Barnhart, John Dallum, Fred Girod, Paul Holvey

Joint Committees**Ways and Means**

Co-Chair: Sen. Kurt Schrader, Co-Chair: Rep. Mary Nolan, Vice-Chair: Sen. Margaret Carter, Vice-Chair: Rep. Nancy Nathanson, Sen. Alan C Bates, Sen. Richard Devlin, Sen. Avel Gordly, Sen. Betsy Johnson, Sen. Frank Morse, Sen. David Nelson, Sen. Joanne Verger, Sen. Ben Westlund, Sen. Doug Whitsett, Sen. Jackie Winters, Rep. David Edwards, Rep. Larry Galizio, Rep. Bill Garrard, Rep. Bruce L Hanna, Rep. Bob Jenson, Rep. Susan Morgan, Rep. Chip Shields

Bankers' Day at the Capitol

We are looking forward to Bankers' Day at the Capitol! Mark your calendars now for Thursday, April 5, 2007, as this important event provides an opportunity for our industry's collective voice to be heard at the Capitol. A full-day of events is planned and will include individual visits with various legislators and a legislative reception at the Salem Conference Center, so please plan to spend most of this day in Salem. We are planning to have over 100 bankers, setting a new record of participation. Attached is a registration form you can print, fill out and return to the OBA. We will be making appointments with legislators based on your responses, so please get the information to us as soon as possible!

Thought for the Week

“There are two educations. One should teach us how to make a living and the other how to live.”
- John Adams (1735 – 1826)



2007 Political Contact Survey

Tell us who you know!

On difficult issues, elected officials respond best to constituents and friends. In order to tap our hidden reservoir of influence, the OBA must identify bankers who have personal and/or professional relationships with state and federal public officials.

Please take time to complete this form and return it to the OBA by fax (503-581-8714), email (ayoung@oregonbankers.com) or mail (OBA, PO Box 13429, Salem, OR 97309).

Your name: _____

Bank: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please provide names of Oregon elected officials with whom you are acquainted. Check the appropriate boxes for your relationship to the individual:

Elected Official's Name: _____

Friend Professional Acquaintance Contributor Campaign Worker
 Other _____

Elected Official's Name: _____

Friend Professional Acquaintance Contributor Campaign Worker
 Other _____

Elected Official's Name: _____

Friend Professional Acquaintance Contributor Campaign Worker
 Other _____

Additional Comments (business partner, relative, member of church, etc.):

*Please Join Your
Fellow Oregon Bankers For...*

BANKERS' DAY

At the Capitol

Thursday, April 5, 2007



Oregon bankers from across the state will gather at the State Capitol in Salem to engage in a dialogue with lawmakers about the important leadership and service roles Oregon banks play in their local communities, as well as the current policy issues facing the financial services industry. Don't miss this important advocacy event for the Oregon banking community!

Tentative Schedule at a Glance:

7:30 - 8:00 am	Check-In at the Capitol Room 50 (ground floor) - Coffee Served
8:00 - Noon	Overview of Schedule & Key Issues Comments from Legislative Leadership Observe Floor Session
Noon	Box Lunches Available
12:30 - 3:30 pm	Individual Meetings with Legislators (appointments made by OBA) Observe Committee Hearings as Schedule Permits
3:30 pm	Optional Tour of the Capitol
5:00 - 7:00 pm	Legislative Reception Salem Conference Center, 200 Commercial Street SE - 2 nd Level

REGISTRATION FORM (fax to OBA at 503-581-8714 or mail to OBA, PO Box 13429, Salem, OR 97309)

NAME _____ TITLE _____

BANK _____ EMAIL _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

The OBA will be making afternoon appointments with all available Oregon legislators.
Would you like to meet with any specific legislators on Bankers' Day?

Questions? Contact the OBA staff at 503-581-3522 or e-mail ayoung@oregonbankers.com



Welcome to BillTrackOR!

Oregon Bankers Association's
Bill Tracking System



SINCE 1905

The Oregon Bankers Association invites you to access our new bill tracking system by following these few easy steps:

1. Visit OBA's website (www.oregonbankers.com) and follow the link under Government Relations or: <http://www.billtrackor.com/billTrackOR/login.aspx>
2. Enter the User Name and Password listed below:

USER Name: oba
Password: legislation

Quick Search:

At the top of the website, you will find an option to input a bill number, keyword or choose a client (OBA Committee) to quickly find bills. For example, if you wanted to find the bills assigned to the Community Involvement Committee, simply select that name in the drop-down box under "Client" and hit "Search". All of the bills that the indicated or selected committee is reviewing will be quickly displayed.

Tabs:

Bills –

Choose the **tracked** option from the drop-down menu.

- You will be able to do a quick filter of bills by checking **Today, This Week, or All Dates**.
- To view the bill, click on the word **Text** next to the bill number.
- Clicking on **SMS** will open any available documents supporting the bill, provided by the legislative offices.
- Clicking on the actual bill number will provide you with a quick summary of which OBA committee is assigned to the bill and if a position has been taken, it will be listed. Any legislative summaries provided by Ken Sherman, OBA's general counsel will be listed on this screen under "notes".

Calendar –

- Allows you to see the current legislative calendar
- If hearings have been scheduled on bills currently being tracked, information will show in the calendar.

Search –

- Allows you to look for a specific bill by a variety of criteria, including bill number, client (committee), date, etc.

Reports –

- Allows you to filter information and format it in an Adobe .pdf format, which can be printed, e-mailed or saved to your computer

(over)

Technical Tips:

- Bookmark the log-in page: <http://www.billtrackor.com/billTrackOR/login.aspx>
- Make sure you are allowing pop-ups for www.billtrackor.com. In Internet Explorer, you can do this by adding the site to the list of permitted pop-ups. Select "Tools" from the main menu, then select "Pop Up Blocker" and "Pop Up Blocker Settings". Then type in www.billtrackor.com.
- If you have a Google toolbar, make sure you have turned off your pop up blocker.
- For Microsoft Outlook 2003 users, you may send meeting announcements to colleagues by selecting "export" from the bills screen or from the bill detail page. When the calendar file opens, select "Invite Attendees" at the top of the file window. This will allow you to access your address book. You can also select the "e-mail" link from the bill details page.

Help:

For technical support questions, contact Abigail Young at the OBA by phone (503) 581-3522 or e-mail ayoung@oregonbankers.com.