

Legislative Report, Volume 30, Number 9 – October 2020

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Climate Emergency

By Julie Chapman, Shirley Weathers, Cathy Frischmann, Josie Koehne, Robin Tokmakian and Claudia Keith, Climate Emergency Portfolio

[Action Alert: Advocate for Congress4Juliana](#)

Contact Senator [Merkley](#) and Senator [Wyden](#) and your Congressional House Representative; let them know by thanking both Senators, [Rep Bonamici](#), [Rep Blumenauer](#) and [Rep DeFazio for supporting and or asking Rep Schrader and Rep Walden](#) to support the Children's Fundamental Rights and Climate Recovery Concurrent Resolutions ([S.Con.Res.47](#) and [H.Con.Res.119](#)). Letter examples: LWVOR [HERE](#) and LWVUS [HERE](#).

Unrelated to the above action alert, you can also attend an Oregon DEQ Virtual town hall meeting and let your opinion be heard. The [Oregon Department of Environmental Quality](#) will hold three virtual town hall meetings to discuss a new program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Oregon on the following dates:

Thursday, Oct. 8, from 5 – 8 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 14, from 1 – 4 p.m.

The town hall meetings are an opportunity for stakeholders and the public to share verbal and written comments and learn more about the purpose and development of a program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, key policy issues under consideration and what to expect during the rulemaking process. DEQ will invite comments on community priorities and ideas on what program success means to Oregonians DEQ Meeting Details [HERE](#) or [HERE](#)

Oregon Climate and Carbon Policy – Political, Economic and Legal

It's unclear given current multi emergency events (COVID-19 and resulting global recession and now historic fires across most of Oregon) if Governor Brown's carbon policy executive orders 20-04 can be implemented based on original funding and timeline assumptions dated winter 2020. [Recent news points to a possible reset](#) on Cap and Trade and Carbon / Climate policy. One OCAP coalition policy analyst writes "[Cap-and-reduce: Will DEQ step up to the plate? Five Business Groups Sue the Governor over carbon-reduction policy](#)", and some legal opinions can be found [HERE](#); '[Oregon Climate Action Update: Key State Agencies Move Forward With Implementation Plans While EO Faces Legal Challenge](#)'; most folks are concerned about the economic hardship [many families in Oregon and across the country are currently experiencing](#). The more optimistic [global view combines COVID-19 economic recovery with climate solutions/funding](#). Some Global [leaders are calling for a Marshall Plan approach](#). November presidential elections will certainly play a significant part in how [climate and economic recovery policy is addressed](#). See the resources below.

- [Governor Brown: Carbon Policy Resources](#)
- [Executive Order on Climate Action \(EO 20-04 March 2020\)](#)
- [Executive Order on Energy Efficiency \(EO 17-20 November 2017\)](#)
- [Executive Order on Electric Vehicles \(EO 17-21 November 2017\)](#)
- [Governor Brown's Oregon Climate Agenda \(November 2018\)](#)

Carbon Policy Executive Orders (EO) 20-04 – Julie Chapman

The number of agencies (17) in which [Governor Brown's Executive Order](#) (EO) 20-04 is being enacted has challenged our ability to monitor all program development. In alignment with the Oregon Climate Action Plan (OCAP)/Renew, with whom we are in coalition, the League is focused on six programs and their associated agencies. OCAP is helpful in bringing together proponents of the EO, offering technical workshops and working on strategies to emphasize strong, equitable emissions reduction programs.

The LWV Climate team had a great response to our request for help, and the following topics are followed by League observers: Cap and Reduce/DEQ; Natural and Working Lands; Transportation; Clean Energy/Public Utility Commission; and Public Health/OHA. Their meeting notes and input really broaden our ability to follow the ways in which agencies are designing their programs.

Environmental Justice

At the July 15 Oregon Transportation Commission, Amanda Pietz, Director of the ODOT Climate Office, clarified that all programs adopted are viewed through both a climate and equity lens. The governing commissions and boards of the four EMC agencies have varying degrees of attention to equity issues; [Land Conservation and Development Commission \(LCDC\)](#) adopted a comprehensive [Climate-Friendly and Equitable Communities Rulemaking document](#) during their September meeting.

Transportation could use more observers. I have been following transportation with Terry Styner. The policy is divided into multiple subtopics and at least 7 agencies.

Every Mile Counts (EMC) is the four agency (ODOT, ODOE, DLCD, DEQ) work plan for EO 20-04 implementation, focusing on expanding alternatives to driving/reducing vehicle miles traveled, increasing

use of cleaner (electric) vehicles and fuels, and integrating consideration of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions into agency decision-making. Elements of EMC include expansion of EV charging infrastructure; development of urban consolidation centers for freight; and efficient land use to allow for infill and mixed-use development in urban areas to enhance access to public transportation. The Zero Emission Vehicle Interagency Working Group ([ZEVIWG](#)) supports adoption of electric vehicles. A new ODOE [interactive website](#) – a dashboard for EV adoption is fun to play with.

In July, Governor Brown signed a [multi-state agreement](#) to make at least 30% of all sales of medium- and heavy-duty trucks and buses in Oregon zero-emission vehicles by 2030.

Cap and Reduce (Kathy Moyd)

LWVOR is a member of the [OCAP](#) (Oregon Climate Action Plan) Rulemaking Coalition facilitated by [Renew Oregon ED Tera Hurst](#), [OCAP coalition engagement structure](#).

We plan to engage where applicable, as OCAP coalition members and or with a separate advocacy voice. Unlike the cap and trade bills in the legislature, there are no funds available to the program to help with goals such as incentivizing reductions with other benefits such as reducing accompanying toxic emissions in vulnerable communities.

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) had a very busy schedule: six Workshops, a presentation at an Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) meeting, preparation of materials for three Town Halls in the first two weeks of October, and posting a request for applications to the Rulemaking Advisory Committee (RAC).

In August and September 2020, DEQ hosted six technical workshops by Zoom for stakeholders to take part in detailed discussions of C&R program design elements, options, and implications prior to formal rulemaking. DEQ made available an issue brief in advance of each workshop to set the stage for the discussion.

Zach Baker of Climate Solutions led a subgroup of the OCAP for the Cap and Reduce program with weekly meetings to prepare for the Workshops. For the most part the agreed upon positions were high level, such as reducing emissions as quickly as possible, concern for impacted/environmental justice communities, and taking into account the costs of not taking action on climate change.

The first workshop on Program Scope drew more than 150 attendees representing regulated industries, environmental organizations, and the public. It was emphasized that the sectors regulated by C&R program are limited to large stationary sources, transportation fuels, and other liquid and gaseous fuels including natural gas. In particular, biogenic emissions, such as those associated with agriculture and forestry, and electricity generated outside of are not included.

The four succeeding workshops on Program Stringency, Alternative Compliance Options, Distribution of Compliance Instruments, and Cost Containment covered specific components of the program such as the setting of the initial cap and the rate of reduction and various mechanisms for providing flexibility. Representatives of natural gas and transportation fuels were regular participants; other regulated sectors were less visible.

It quickly became obvious that the components were not independent. There was general agreement by both OCAP C&R and the regulated entities that a low initial cap with rapid reductions should be accompanied by flexibility in meeting the cap, particularly at the beginning of the program.

The most interesting of the potential alternatives is the Alternative Compliance Option (ACO), which would allow a regulated entity to pay for equivalent emission reduction (or possibly sequestration) by an entity outside the scope of the C&R program. The regulated industries wanted as much flexibility as possible, including allowing reductions outside Oregon. ACOs could be used to pay for some of the unfunded required reductions under other parts of the Executive Order.

Unlike the previous workshops, Workshop 6 on Impacted Communities was well attended by environmental justice groups. It featured a presentation by Amira Streeter, Gov. Brown's natural resources policy advisor on Environmental Justice, including the development of a Climate Justice strategy by an interagency workgroup, as directed by Executive Order 20-04. Bob Collin, Vice-Chair of the Environmental Justice Task Force gave an initial talk emphasizing his long history with environmental justice starting with the EPA under Carol Browner during the Clinton Administration mentioning that including those affected by climate change under environmental justice is relatively recent and participated throughout the meeting.

There was confusion about the term "impacted communities" with "environmental justice" sometimes included and other times treated as separate. Other terms are "frontline communities", "climate justice" and "Black Indigenous People of Color (BIPOC)". It was clarified that those near polluting sources are considered impacted communities along with those directly impacted by climate change.

This was the first time the proposed make-up of the Rulemaking Advisory Committee was presented. OCAP C&R was concerned that the regulated sectors and General Business Organizations had 9 - 11 representatives while the Tribes, Environmental Organizations, and Environmental Justice Communities had only 6. It was also suggested that labor and climate science should be included.

The latest September newsletter from the Oregon Department of Energy can be found [HERE](#)

Clean Buildings (Claudia Keith)

On March 10, 2020, the Governor issued [Executive Order \(EO\) 20-04](#), with performance-based directives intended to build upon the ongoing prescriptive requirements of [EO 17-20](#). November 2017 was the month the Governor spoke at the UN Cop 23 in Bonn, Germany.

EO 20-04 requires the division, through its advisory boards, to do the following:

- Adopt building energy efficiency goals for 2030 for new residential and commercial construction, representing a 60 percent reduction in new building annual site consumption of energy from the adopted 2006 Oregon codes ([2004 OSSC, Chapter 13](#) and [2005 ORSC, Chapter 11](#)).
- Evaluate and report on Oregon's current progress toward achieving the goal for new residential and commercial buildings, and options for achieving that goal over the next three code cycles.
- Adopt a reach code on the same three-year code cycle timeline.
- Report to the Governor in September 2020 and every three years thereafter on current progress and options for achieving the goals.

Oregon is a national leader on energy-efficient building codes and the executive orders build upon that work. [Find out where Oregon ranks among other states.](#) The Building Codes Division, together with its boards and other state agencies, looks forward to continuing Oregon's national leadership on energy efficiency for new construction. The division has provided an implementation report on the proposed actions in EO 20-04. [See the report.](#)

Department of Forestry Climate Emergency

On June 26, in an overwhelming bipartisan vote, both chambers of the Oregon Legislature passed legislation [SB 1602](#) that will strengthen the state's aerial pesticide spray regulations and set the stage for fundamental reform of the Oregon Forest Practices Act. The legislation comes four months after thirteen conservation and fishing organizations reached an agreement (see MOU in the last legislative report) with thirteen timber companies on a path forward to modernize the state's long-outdated forestry laws.

Core provisions in the bill are as follows:

- Improved stream buffers on salmon and steelhead streams in the Rogue-Siskiyou region.
- New 50 foot buffers against aerial spray of pesticide near tens of thousands of miles of small streams.
- Much larger buffers against aerial spray of pesticide near homes, schools, and drinking water intakes.
- A first-in-the-nation system to allow people living near forest land to sign up for 24 hour electronic notices before aerial spray of pesticide occurs, along with increased transparency.
- Funding to begin mediation between representatives of the parties to bring a fuller package of rules to increase protections for threatened and endangered aquatic species. Topics will include stream buffers, steep slopes, and roads.

"With the passage of SB 1602, rural communities across Oregon are now reassured that legislators are

listening and responding to their concerns about aerial pesticide spray on forest lands,” said Lisa Arkin, executive director of Beyond Toxics. “Today’s affirmative vote is a significant stride toward protecting health and drinking water for rural Oregon families because it establishes a lasting policy of community toxics ‘right-to-know’ as well as protective buffer zones for homes, schools and drinking water resources.”

Update on the Oregon Department of Forestry Climate Action Plan

So far, the Department of Justice has not yet answered the June 3 Board of Forestry’s questions regarding its and the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)’s legal authority to set rules and guidelines to reach climate CO2 emissions targets as required by Governor Brown’s March 10 Executive Order: Oregon Climate Action Plan ([EO 20-04](#)). The executive order and the responses received from the 16 agencies all happened before COVID set in. Jason Miner, the governor’s Natural Resources Policy Director rejected the ODF response for failing to provide any specific direction as to how to meet the reduced carbon targets. A revised letter has apparently been sent back to the governor’s office according to ODF but has not yet been posted.

At the July 22nd Board of Forestry meeting, Item 9, there was an update on the current climate change work within the department presented by John Tokarczyk, Manager, Policy Analysis Unit (PAU), Andrew Yost, Forest Ecologist, PAU and Danny Norlander, Forest Carbon and Forest Health Policy Analyst, PAU. The report discussed upcoming research on carbon storage in wood products and sawmill CO2 emissions, and other regional carbon research expected within a few years. It also focused on revisions to the climate Goal F due this fall and the Department of Land Conservation and Development’s Climate Adaption Framework (CAF).

Climate Adaption Framework’s key implementation recommendations are:

- Establish a governance structure
- Engage disproportionately affected frontline and marginalized communities
- Produce a rigorous and comprehensive vulnerability assessment
- Encourage a culture of interagency collaboration
- Integrate climate change adaptation into agency work

At the conclusion of the report, it stated:

What the report was:

- Input to the Governor’s Office on what agencies believed to be within their authorities.
- Where agency goals were in relation to EO 20-04.
- An opportunity to identify where the agency would like to direct work.

The report was not:

- Intended to be a process for public input.
- Related to agency budget development.
- Providing commitments from the agency to achieve what is in the report.

This last bullet was what many climate activists were disappointed about in the initial ODF response. Many of these letters to the Board of Forestry and ODF were included in the July meeting materials packet, including this letter from the Forest Carbon Coalition. LWV also submitted a letter (see the previous LR).

When the wildfires hit hard in August, on top of the COVID crisis and the department has been extremely busy with wildfire suppression and analysis, including fire projection costs. Until the Department of Justice reports back on the Board of Forestry and the ODF's authority, it is doubtful that much work will be accomplished on the ways they plan to meet the EO's carbon reduction goals. In addition to the fire and COVID disasters, there has been growing controversy over the balance of representation on the Board of Forestry with the governor's recommended candidates withdrawn prior to the Senate Committee on Executive Appointment vote during Legislative Days. See the articles in the Forestry Legislative report.

Public Health

Public Health Advisory Board – September 29, 2020 Meeting Notes

Media contact: Jonathan Modie, [971-246-9139](tel:971-246-9139), phd.communications@dhsosha.state.or.us

Public Health Advisory Board workgroup meeting on health equity

What: The Public Health Advisory Board will hold a health equity workgroup meeting.

Agenda: Review and update Public Health Advisory Board health equity review policy and procedure.

When: Monday, Oct. 5, 10-11 a.m. The meeting is open to the public. A public comment period will be held at the end of the meeting.

Where: Conference call: (669) 254-5252; Meeting ID: 160 267 8650

Background: [Oregon's Public Health Advisory Board](#) provides guidance for Oregon's governmental public health system and oversees the implementation of public health modernization and Oregon's State Health Improvement Plan.

Oregon Global Warming Commission – September 23, 2020 Meeting Notes (Julie Chapman and new League observer)

Summary: Natural Resources Program Area staff have been participating in several climate change-related initiatives outlined in the Governor's Executive Order 20-04. One of these efforts involves developing a proposal for sequestration goals for natural and working lands. The Oregon Global Warming Commission will be working to develop a proposal related to these goals in coordination with the Oregon Department of Forestry, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, and Oregon Department of Agriculture. Cathy MacDonald, Chair of the Oregon Global Warming Commission, will present more information about this effort at the September Board meeting. Additional information about the effort is available online.

The focus for the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) for the next 1-2 years will involve the following key priority areas: affordable housing, equity issues, response to the Governor's Wildfire Task Force, Climate Change Adaptation Framework and an update to statewide transportation policy and the Transportation System Plan (TSP). Of particular importance to agriculture will be the Commission's work on the TSP and climate change. Budget constraints will limit work in other areas of interest to agriculture for the near future.

Natural Resource Programs Stephanie Page, Program Director; spage@oda.state.or.us; 503-986-4713

[Link to agenda for the State Board of Agriculture meeting](#) Sept 23, 2020 (Because of technical difficulties, [Cathy MacDonald's presentation](#) was rescheduled from 9:45am to 10:10am)

[In August OGWC was accepting public comment](#) on the biannual report due in January for the next

Legislative Session. The League chose not to provide an advocacy letter.

The Oregon Global Warming Commission will meet virtually, Friday, October 30, 2020. Find the event registration [link here](#).

Agriculture

[The Oregon Wheat Industry newsletter](#) contains (industry) talking points related to Climate Carbon Executive Orders. Note. ODA did publish [a report in June](#) but it does not clearly reflect the EO requirements.

DEQ Town Halls: Talking Points

Reward Proactive Investments. Farmers and ranchers who have invested in new equipment in order to emit less carbon should be rewarded for being proactive in the innovations they've adopted, not punished because they acted before a mandate.

Wheat Markets. Wheat farmers operate on thin profit margins. Increases to farm inputs, coupled with higher transportation costs to ship wheat to markets will put family wheat farms out of business. The agency should do everything possible to mitigate impacts to consumers/farm families, especially now as businesses struggle financially. Protect our wheat markets!

DEQ must protect low-income and/or rural residents. Rural Oregonians often drive longer distances for critical services—groceries, health care, fuel, etc.—and will bear a greater portion of the cost of a carbon reduction program. DEQ must not to design a program that takes money from rural families simply to reallocate it to urban areas of the state. That's not fair.

Farmers and foresters must have a seat at the table. The Rules Advisory Committee lacks voices from production agriculture and commercial timber. As we've seen in other jurisdictions, it's impossible to create a workable "working lands" program without those engaged in production agriculture. Please add a production ag representative to the Committee. Notes: Use YOUR personal stories! How will increased cost to gas/electricity/etc. impact your operation?'

More Climate Emergency Team Observers Needed in Agriculture and Other Areas

With a couple more LWVOR observers, we could better cover Agriculture. Public Health and Transportation could be split up into subtopics. We will provide support for becoming familiar with "observing" and with understanding the subject matter. Examples:

- Development of charging infrastructure for EVs
- Adoption of metro plans throughout the state that foster city transit systems (DLCD)
- EV adoption strategies
- Development of the Clean Fuels Program (DEQ)
- Oregon Health Authority Climate Policy
- Oregon Dept of [Agricultural Climate /carbon Policy](#)

We could actually use 6-8 more observers! If you are interested, please contact the LWVOR office: Phone: 503-581-5722; Email: lwvor@lwvor.org.

Jordan Cove Energy Project (JCEP) (Shirley Weathers)

Since August, discussion in the [media](#), including at [investor sites](#), tends to focus on the staggering natural gas market and how the fossil fuel industry, including JCEP's owner Pembina, may respond. Since the Trump Administration has [featured Jordan Cove among their priorities](#), JCEP is often brought up by name with some speculation about whether market conditions plus remaining regulatory barriers may be giving Pembina pause about continuing to throw money after the project. Pembina though, is silent on the subject and from all available information, is still pursuing efforts to obtain necessary permits reported in previous issues.

On the state regulatory side, Oregon state agencies and the Attorney General's Office, as well as oppositional Tribes and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) working in coalition against the project, have met all deadlines related to pertinent challenges. All are now waiting for:

1. Briefing schedules from the DC Circuit Court of Appeals related to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) Orders.
2. The U.S. Secretary of Commerce's decision on JCEP's request for an override of Oregon's objections to the corporation's Coastal Zone Management consistency certificate.
3. FERC's ruling on whether Oregon waived their authority over JCEP's 401 Water Quality certification. A local land use permit reversed by the Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA), thanks to work by the Crag Law Center and Talent attorney Tonia Moro, will require Pembina to start from Square One. Other state permits are pending.

Pembina also has some distance to go before they will hold all of the federal permits needed to go forward. Several federal land management entity Rights-of-Way are still pending, as are authorizations under Section 10/408 of the Rivers and Harbors Act, Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, actions related to the Ports and Waterway Safety Act, Maritime Transportation Security Act, and Federal Communications Commission Licenses.

The federal [FAST-41 Dashboard](#) predicts completion of all requirements by March 9, 2021, but omits mention that several permits marked "complete" have been reopened due to a pipeline route change that was not considered by several entities and, by law, must be considered.

In short, Jordan Cove is not a done deal yet, but it's not dead either.

Office of Economic Analysis (OEA) (Claudia Keith)

On Sept 23 [Oregon economic and revenue quarterly forecast](#) highlights and comprehensive reporting was presented to the House and [Senate Finance and Revenue policy committees](#). This was a very unexpected favorable analysis. See Revenue Report. The League continues to be concerned that any mention of climate change or global warming has been completely removed. Both international and U.S. governments and respected fiduciary institutions are beginning to work on a process that would require timely climate risk quarterly disclosure be required for all insurers of publicly traded securities including bonds which would include the state of Oregon and many Oregon cities/counties, etc.

In social media, House [Speaker Tina Kotek pointed to this article](#): "Confused about yesterday's state revenue forecast? This article might help. We need to address the growing income inequality the pandemic has made

dramatically worse. #orpol". [‘Harvard’s Chetty Finds Economic Carnage in Wealthiest ZIP Codes](#): The celebrated economist has built a data tool with a God’s-eye view of the pandemic’s damage—and soaring inequality.’

Fracking

On September 18, 2020 ‘Community Members Urge Washington to [Reject Kalama Methanol Refinery](#)’ In Virtual Public Hearing. The League is following this topic given its relationship to the Columbia River Ecosystem but also how the pollution (fracked methane gas) from this methane will add to global GHG emissions. From the article: “People all around the Pacific Northwest presented ardent testimony today to the WA Dept. of Ecology. Our message was united. The climate, already in an emergency state, cannot afford an additional 4.6 million metric tons of carbon pollution annually from a massive fossil-gas to methanol refinery on the shores of the Columbia River in Kalama,” said Sally Keely, a Kalama resident and math professor.”

Our Children’s Trust (Cathy Frischmann and Claudia Keith)

LWV U.S. recently approved state and local leagues to lobby their congressional delegations to support [#Congress4Juliana](#). A new congressional campaign to support the Children’s Fundamental Rights and Climate Recovery Resolution. Read LWVOR testimony, sent to the Oregon congressional delegation, to urge support (and thank co-sponsors) for this critical resolution. [Read the letters](#) and see Action Alert.

Local and Municipal Climate Action Plans

Bend, Oregon is one of the most recent cities to prepare a [Climate Action Plan](#). ‘Increasingly, localities across the US, along with a handful of public libraries, are writing and following their own CAPs with objectives for reducing emissions and energy consumption, preparing for disasters, addressing residents’ climate concerns, meeting other sustainability goals, or all of the above. Bend, Oregon; Boston; Everett, Washington; Houston; South Bend, Indiana; and Tempe, Arizona, are just a few of the many cities that have drafted, enacted, or updated a CAP within the past year.’

July 24, 2020: ‘ODOE Seeks Assistance in Identifying Local Climate Action Efforts: Has your city (and or county) adopted a local climate action plan, engaged in work to inventory local greenhouse gas emissions or adopted climate adaptation or mitigation strategies? If so, or if your city has plans to do so, the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) would like to know. The ODOE is updating its Biennial Energy Report (BER), which will provide comprehensive information on Oregon’s energy sector and the climate-energy nexus for the Legislature, local jurisdictions, and organizations across Oregon....’

[CAPs have been adopted or are in process in many Oregon communities](#). Local Leagues and League members are encouraged to advocate your local communities to develop, implement in a timely manner and related, properly fund CAP plans. Here are a few that have been enacted so far:

- [Ashland Climate & Energy Action Plan](#) (2017)
- [Corvallis Climate Action Plan](#) (2016)
- [Eugene Climate Recovery](#) (2010)
- [Milwaukie Climate Action Plan](#) (2018)

- [Tillamook Climate Action Plan](#) (2015)
- [Portland and Multnomah County Climate Action Plan](#) (2015)
- Clatsop and Tillamook Counties: [Regional Framework for Climate Adaptation](#) (2 – part document) (2010)
- City of Salem has begun a community-wide effort to develop a [Climate Action Plan \(CAP\)](#).
- Lincoln County joined City of Newport in development of a [Public Private Climate Change Partnership](#)
- City of Eugene adopted a [Climate Action Plan 2.0](#) this summer

Regional News

Western Governors Association

[Salt City News](#): ‘Governor Kate Brown today [Sept 23] issued the following statement on Governor Gavin Newsom’s announcement that California will require all new passenger vehicles to emit zero emissions by 2035: “From pick-up trucks to minivans, the future of vehicles in this country is electric. I’m proud to say that, in Oregon, we have already set ambitious goals for increasing the number of zero-emission vehicles on our roads. And, as the chair of the Western Governor’s Association, I have launched the Electric Vehicles Roadmap Initiative with my fellow governors to lay out the path to the adoption of zero-emission technology, from consumer incentives and tax exemptions to building the electric vehicle infrastructure we will need across the West....’

Pacific Coast Collaborative

[Climate Week NYC is one of the only international climate summits taking place this year. The Pacific Coast Collaborative had 60 minutes in the middle of the highly anticipated summit to talk about how the region is shaping a green and just recovery from the global pandemic.](#) This was an important opportunity to speak to a global audience about government leadership on climate action. Governments at all levels globally are committing to job-creating stimulus funding and infrastructure investments that also address the climate crisis, social justice, and public health challenges worldwide.

As cities, states, and regions chart the path to recovery from the global pandemic – government leaders from the Pacific Coast shared how prioritizing a healthy green recovery with a social justice lens will create the future we need now.

Federal News

We are planning on diving into this topic to better understand the implications new federal legislation will have on Oregon Carbon/Climate policies and goals.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED! It would be great to have a few more dedicated volunteers. If any of these policy areas interest you: please contact Claudia Keith, ca.keith@comcast.net

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Education Policy

By Chris Vogel, Education Policy Portfolio

Education Budget

ODE [Policy Option Packages](#) have these recommendations for strategic investments:

- \$170.5 million in the State School Fund and the High School Success Grant Program (Measure 98) to ensure the total investment is in alignment with the previous school year distribution and expenditure of funds
- \$7.7 million to maintain the level of agency operations approved in the passage of the Student Success Act, as well as increase in the Latinx Student Success Plans, and the establishment of an LGBTQ Student Success Plan
- \$0.6 million to maintain the level of Early Learning Division operations needed to continue the ongoing management and oversight for funding that supports professional learning for early learning service providers
- \$307.5 million to provide both bond funding and other resources that help ensure students are able to learn in safe, accessible, and quality school facilities that optimize their opportunities for success
- \$74.3 million that further enhances existing programs, initiatives, and best practices that improve the ability to identify and educate students with specialized needs and ensure each student has adequate levels of services needed for success
- \$14.1 million in supporting digital learning and innovated approaches for teachers to provide students with personalized learning, computer science, blended learning, and online e-learning that is adapted to meet their needs (This is a critical investment in addressing the impact of COVID-19)
- \$1.7 million for promoting student-centered teaching and learning through a balanced system of assessments
- \$5.4 million that furthers the development of both new and existing programs and learning that enable students to build skills through problem-solving, critical thinking, adaptability, innovation, and design thinking
- \$1.2 million aimed at replacing, updating, and/or enhancing critical information technology systems used for managing key agency business processes, as well as providing relevant student information to all stakeholder
- \$1.7 million that creates new or expanded standards that improve student outcomes through social/emotional learning; ethnic studies; and world languages and the arts, and ensures the Department has the support to adequately maintain compliance with existing state and federal programs and requirements
- \$1.1 million focused on ensuring existing programs for both Child Nutrition and Student Transportation continue providing support to students in receiving healthy and nutritional food and ensuring safe and adequate transportation to and from school
- \$2.7 million in agency operations for existing positions that ensure the ongoing support of delivering outstanding customer service; ensuring compliance and accountability, and providing leadership in helping Oregon's students succeed
- \$0.7 million to assist students, parents, and other stakeholders in navigating through complaint processes at both state and local levels and help parents in advocating for their children, as well as providing equitable access to government data, information, communication, and other critical messages
- \$14.0 million for a one-time investment to support an Indigenous Education Institute and an Anti-Racist Leadership Initiative that will directly impact students, educators, leaders, and community members and also accelerate the broader efforts of the Educator Equity Act to diversify the educator workforce

[Oregon Department of Education Legislative Concepts](#) proposals that will likely become bills in 2021 include:

[Oregon Department of Education Legislative Concepts](#) proposals that will likely become bills in 2021 include:

- Stabilize funding for Youth Corrections, Juvenile Detention Education Program
- Allow Native students to wear traditional regalia or objects of cultural significance at school honoring or graduation ceremonies
- Direct State Board of Education to adopt content standards for Social/Emotional Learning
- English Language Arts subjects are required to be taken in English only. This proposal removes the “English only requirement” and replaces it with “language arts”
- Directs ODE to develop and implement a statewide education plan for LGBTQ+ students
- Permits the State Board of Education to establish a statewide metric for student mental and behavioral health as a SIA longitudinal performance growth target
- Use the Facilities Grant funding for a Statewide Facility Condition Assessment to provide the state with a comprehensive picture of school facility conditions
- Allows sites contracted with the Department of Human Services (DHS) and Oregon Youth Authority (OYA) to qualify as “eligible day treatment programs”

Broadband Accessibility

In March and April, the Oregon Department of Education developed and distributed two surveys to gather information about districts’ capacity for online learning. ODE partnered with the Oregon Business Council, the Oregon Community Foundation, and the Coalition Oregon School Administrators to form the [Connect Oregon Students for Learning Coalition](#). The Connect Oregon Students for Learning Coalition reviewed the reports generated from these initial surveys and the most recent [broadband report](#) from the Oregon Broadband Office. Four key areas were identified as needs:

1. Broadband Infrastructure (lack of fiber/cable built in an area);
2. Internet Service Access (families’ inability to afford or choose not to have access);
3. Device Access (lack of laptops, chrome books, ipads, hotspots, etc.); and
4. Digital Literacy and Knowledge (educator and family understanding of how to use devices and programs, educator’s and administrator’s lack of online pedagogical best practices, and familiarity with student privacy issues).

The Oregon Department of Education engaged the Connect Oregon Students for Learning Coalition partners, district superintendents, Education Service Districts, and the Oregon Association of Education Service Districts to plan the design of the [Comprehensive Distance Learning Grant program and application](#). The 28.1 million dollars in grant funding came from three sources: Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds, Governor’s Emergency Education Relief (GEER) funds, and the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) funds. The goal was to develop an application process that met the local and immediate needs of our schools as they implemented Comprehensive Distance Learning. The table below illustrates key elements of the grant design that extend from the beliefs and critical steps from the Connect Oregon Students for Learning Summit participants. In addition, the grant incorporates the essential question in the Connect Oregon Students for Learning Summit through requiring districts to address how they will plan for changing inequitable systems and through the planning that went into the funding formula. Additional testimony on broadband came from [Oregon Business Council](#), [Business Oregon](#), [Oregon Cable Telecommunications Association](#),

COVID-19 school reopening orientations and wildfire impact updates were offered by: Miriam Calderon, Early

Learning System Director, [Early Learning Division](#); Colt Gill, Director, [Oregon Department of Education](#); Joe O'Leary, Director, [Oregon Youth Authority](#); Lara Smith, [Oregon Juvenile Counties Departments](#) Directors' Association; and Ben Cannon, Director, Higher Education Coordinating Commission. Within colleges and universities, an enormous revenue impact is felt with lower enrollment, only minimal on-site dormitory and dining services. Emergency funding allocated through governor executive orders and the legislature are helping higher education to stay afloat. These are unpredictable and challenging times. The [Oregon Council of University Presidents](#) report, "Our priority remains the health and safety of all on our campuses while ensuring that we do not create greater barriers to access than already systemically exist. So, as important as the health and safety of faculty, staff and students is, the continuity of education for students, especially first-generation, lower-income and underrepresented students is vital."

Equity in Education

"...I did not get to spend much time with him growing up. He did not graduate from high school. Many of my uncle's did not graduate from high school went to jail too. My mom did an awesome job raising five kids without him. We didn't have much money, but she made it work. I began having challenges in school during middle school. I attended three different middle schools in one year. I can't remember specifically why we had to move so much but my family ultimately landed in east Portland. I ended up at a school where there were only a few black students and no black teachers. I felt isolated and I can remember being angry because I used to hear white parents making negative comments about me and school staff allowed it to happen. We didn't have a lot of money, but I wanted the nice things that so many of the white kids had. I got caught stealing a new pair of Jordan's and was sent to Juvenile detention. My mom refused to come and get me out, but my aunt did. The only person who really challenged me learn was my high school football coach. No one else pushed me academically. Now that I think about the system just passed me through and I think many of my friends had the same experience. I remember getting in a fight in high school and was suspended for a week. My best friend in high school who is white got in a fight latter that same year and was not even sent home for the day. Everyone knew that black kids always were punished more than the white students. Me and my friend still talk about this situation to this day. After graduating from high school, I was arrested and taken to jail for being in the wrong place, with the wrong people, at the wrong time. Luckily, I only had to serve twenty days locked up. I have not been in trouble since. So many of my family members and friends have had terrible experiences with various schools and the law. I come from a large extended family and unfortunately my last name is well known in the streets. As a father I am doing everything I can to make sure that my son gets the best education and never goes to jail. I wish I could rely on the schools, but I know that I will have be involved every step of the way to make sure he gets treated well. Thank you! Signed.....Jonny" To get updates and learn more about Reimagine Oregon [signup](#) for the briefs on how "Dismantling systemic racism must happen in our lifetimes." Systemic racism is a virus that has plagued America from its very first days. While it took 400 years – or over 20,000 weeks – to get to this point, we believe that Oregon is capable of starting this important work. Our children do not have to inherit the social ills we've been born into.

Education Policy Testimony

The Oregon Legislature met for an interim session the week of September 23, 2020. [Senate Interim Committee on Education](#) (OLIS [video](#) and [materials](#)) met [9/21/2020](#). [House Interim Committee on Education](#) (OLIS [video](#) and [materials](#)) met [9/22/2020](#). The [Joint Emergency Board](#) met [9/25/2020](#) considering many topics including Higher Education Coordinating Commission and Department of Education (OLIS [video](#) and

[materials](#))

We need LWVOR volunteers to follow:

- early learning,
- schools K-12
- career technical training
- higher education in community colleges and universities

Will you work from home to read and analyze bills, watch committee hearings recorded on OLIS, or write summaries on bills for this Legislative Report? Chris will be taking a leave of absence after the 2021 session to travel. We REALLY NEED YOU. Contact chrisvogelvolunteerlwvor@gmail.com

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Governance

By Norman Turrill, Governance Coordinator

Interim Senate and House rules committees met to hear reports on the coming elections, consider appointments, and hear legislative concepts. There are also developments on redistricting and open primaries.

The [Senate Interim Committee On Rules and Executive Appointments met 9/21/20](#) to mostly consider various appointments, particularly two new members of the Oregon Government Ethics Commission. A confirmation hearing regarding the new Public Records Advocate, Becky Chiao, [was removed from the agenda](#), apparently over a dispute about the independence of that office from the governor.

The committee also heard election updates from Elections Director Steve Trout. Mr. Trout urged voters displaced by forest fires to go to OregonVotes.gov/fires to see the latest advice on how to vote. He also stated that, although Voters' Pamphlets and ballots cannot be forwarded, undeliverable mail will be held at the nearest post office until at least election day.

The [House Interim Committee on Rules met 9/24/20](#) to receive updates on the November election, the Oregon Centralized Voter Registration (OCVR) database, the census, and Reimagine Oregon Project legislative concepts for the 2021 session.

Regarding the November election, the discussion centered on voters displaced by forest fires. Oregon is far ahead of other states since we have been doing vote-by-mail for over 20 years, so no procedures need to change for displaced voters. Voters can go online to OregonVotes.gov to register to vote, update their mailing address, or provide a temporary address. This is the normal mechanism that is already used for houseless voters. Voters can pick up and/or vote their ballots at a county elections office. County election offices will also be proactively reaching out to voters. The [ballot tracking system](#) can also be used to make

sure that an individual's vote is actually received and counted.

Oct. 13 is the deadline for new voter registrations, but other changes can be made right up through election day. The 2020 primary election had a record turnout of 1.3 million voters. The general election is also expected to have a record turnout. However, because of the pandemic, election offices may take longer to tally the ballots.

The Post Office is a different matter. Oregon elections offices have a great relationship with their local post offices. However, mail may take longer to deliver because of the pandemic and because most mail is now routed through Portland. Therefore, get your ballots in the mail early and remember that postage is now paid by the state. The League continues to encourage voters to use dropboxes where possible to save the postage expense.

The central voter registration database (OCVR) is a relatively old computer system built using HAVA funds after the 2000 election meltdown. It is currently stable and secure, but is being replaced after this election.

The House Rules Committee also heard an update on the 2020 Census. 97.7% of the Oregon housing units have been enumerated, including both self-response and follow up by census workers. This is compared to 96.2% nationally as of 9/22/20. A court case in California will decide when enumeration ends and when data is delivered to Congress for reapportionment and to states for redistricting.

Marcus Mundy, Executive Director of the Coalition of Communities of Color, presented two concepts for legislation from [Reimaging Oregon](#) to House Rules. The first concept proposed including "racial impact statements" when bills are considered in legislative committees. The second concept proposed that advisory boards and commissions pay travel or participation stipends so that people of color could afford to be appointed.

Redistricting

When the [9th Circuit Court of Appeals could not decide if the case was moot](#), it remanded the case back to Judge McShane's federal district court. Although the [People Not Politicians](#) Initiative Petition 57 will not be on the ballot for the November election, the associated lawsuit will continue in federal district court. The coalition is considering other future actions.

Open Primaries

The LWVOR is in discussions with supporters of replacing Oregon's closed primary election system. In part because of automatic voter registrations, non-affiliated voters are now the second-largest group of registered voters in Oregon. However, they are not allowed to vote for partisan offices, but may only vote for nonpartisan offices and for any ballot measures that are on a primary election ballot. With what to replace the closed primary system, is an open debate.

Immigration/Refugee/Human Rights (Claudia Keith)

The League is following a number of issues related to immigrants, refugees, human rights and related, the new 2019 'Hate/Bias Crime reporting & victim support' ([SB577 \(2019\)](#)) implementation. The Legislative

[Emergency Board](#) is currently funding the [Workers Relief Fund](#) and the COVID-19 [Quarantine E Fund](#). These funds go primarily to workers in Oregon that do not qualify for federal COVID-19 relief funding. [A number of Ag and other workers are also effected by unhealthy working conditions related to COVID-19 and wildfire](#) air pollution. ICE activity continues in Oregon and active federal [ICE related cases in the Federal](#) District Court in Portland. The Oregon Department of Justice (DOJ) is providing ("COVID-19 [Resources for Immigrants and Refugees](#)) and in July and August Oregon DOJ "Community Conversations: [DOJ's Crime Victim and Survivor Services Division \(CVSSD\) and Civil Rights Unit](#)" held twelve community conversations with people from demographic groups who have historically been discriminated against, experienced exclusion, and who are currently impacted by ongoing inequity. The sessions were a continuation of in-person discussions begun in the Fall of 2019 by DOJ's Crime Victim and Survivor Services Division. Our Summer 2020 Community Conversations included population-specific sessions for the following communities:

- LGBTIQ2S+
- Religious Minority
- Latinx
- Black/African American
- Asian and Pacific Islander
- Undocumented/Migrant Farm Worker
- Houseless/Mental Illness/Addictions

- American Indian/Alaska Native
- Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Disabilities
- Refugee/Immigrant communities

Future Community Conversations will include separate sessions for Asian and Pacific Islander communities, Blind/Low Sight communities, LGB people of color as well as trans/2-Spirit people of color, and an additional session for people of color more broadly. The Summer 2020 conversations focused on topics such as access, voice, justice, profiling, institutional racism and discrimination, implicit bias, and explicit hate. These conversations were intended to help DOJ better understand the needs and challenges of these communities, the barriers they face when interacting with DOJ and DOJ-funded programs, and to improve these programs and services to specifically meet the needs of individuals from these communities, not just dominant-culture Oregonians. We anticipate holding our next series of Community Conversations in Spring 2021".

[Bend City Council considers policies, proposals](#) to support immigrants, Latinos (9/17/20) – Discussion in response to community outcry after ICE standoff from the article: "... Many 'sanctuary city' resolutions include policies restricting use of local resources to detain people under federal detention orders, not inquiring about immigration status, and not sharing information about immigration status or other information about individuals," according to a city legal memo.

Other ideas being considered include having a local office to help immigrants navigate city services and to have the newly-created Human Rights and Equity Commission study the issue and provide recommendations....."

[The Northern Oregon Regional Correctional Facility \(NORCOR\)](#) will terminate its housing contracts with the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency (ICE). This facility is owned by three eastern Oregon counties that have financially benefited for a number of years renting available space to ICE.

If you are willing and able to follow governance issues, we need you! You determine your own level of volunteer time. Will you work from home to read and analyze bills, watch committee hearings recorded on OLIS, or write summaries on bills for this Legislative Report? Contact n.turrill@lwvor.org

Natural Resources

By Peggy Lynch, Natural Resources Coordinator

Budgets (Peggy Lynch)

We have had a second special session where budgets were adjusted (mostly cuts in the natural resource area). Agencies have provided the Governor with their 2021-23 Agency Request Budgets (ARB) that you can see on agency websites. We understand that agencies have also been requested to provide a 20% cuts list for consideration in 2021. Although the latest Revenue Forecast saw an increase, there is still an estimated \$1.1 billion shortfall to fund current service levels for the 2021-23 session.

In the meantime, the Emergency Board (E-Board) provided the Oregon Dept. of Forestry (ODF) with a \$75 million spending limitation as they receive monies from FEMA and others for the wildfires that ODF helps to fight. With thousands of people fighting the fires, requiring enormous expenditures for personnel, equipment, and logistics, the costs are huge already and will continue to rise by more than a million dollars a day. It has already cost more than \$50 million and will go much higher. The costs are shared to some extent with private forestland owners, and we can eventually expect reimbursements from FEMA and from an insurance policy that the state has with Lloyd's of London. The initial request from the Department was for \$55 million now. However, the Legislative Fiscal Office recommended that the E-Board authorize an additional \$20 million, since the need will clearly be there. A General Fund budget request may happen in the next E-Board meeting to be held Oct. 12.

We are hopeful that monies for the Office of Emergency Management, Dept. of Environmental Quality and Dept. of Land Conservation and Development will also see new funding allocations from the \$200 million that the E-Board was provided in the last special session. Separately, the Office of State Fire Marshal, under the Oregon State Police, has a \$15 million cost for these fires on a \$550,000 budget. The Fire Marshal's office coordinates structure assistance among Oregon's local fire departments when the Governor declares a "conflagration" and help is needed to save lives and homes.

Air Quality

The Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) approved an increase in some fees for the Air Quality program to assist in increasing staffing and improving permitting status. See the Climate Report for more information.

Smoke an issue? You can [monitor local air quality](#) to protect the health of you and your family.

Arlington Landfill Radioactive Waste Dumping (Shirley Weathers)

The Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) continues to progress towards resolution of, and response to, the

[illegal acceptance over three years](#) at the Arlington Landfill of almost 1,300 tons of radioactive fracking waste by Chemical Waste Management (CWM).

The Rulemaking Advisory Committee (RAC) formed to review potential inadequacies in OAR 435.029, Notice of Violation, Civil Penalties, Revocation or Suspension has met twice and expects to discuss draft rule changes at its third meeting in late September or early October. The [June](#) and [August](#) issues of the Legislative Report provide additional background on this effort, including the fact that legislation will also be required to effectively deter or respond to recurrence.

Meanwhile, acceptance of this waste also violated CWM's hazardous waste permit administered by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and on August 28, that agency issued [Notices of Civil Penalty Assessment and Order](#) to both [CWM](#) (\$60,000) and [OWL, Inc.](#), (\$303,856) the Montana-based transport company that hauled the waste to the landfill. The delayed issuance stemmed from the fact that ODOE and DEQ have different authorities. DEQ issued penalties under Oregon's solid and hazardous waste rules, whereas ODOE determined that its existing rules did not allow for financial penalties to be levied. The DEQ enforcement action includes an order for Chemical Waste Management to provide DEQ with a written statement of what procedures the facility currently has in place, or plans to implement, to ensure compliance with DEQ requirements. DEQ is also playing a key role in the abovementioned RAC.

ODOE's Notice of Violation required Chemical Waste Management to develop a [Risk Assessment](#) and [Corrective Action Plan](#). Those documents are now available for public review as of September 8, 2020. [ODOE's Cover Memo](#) provides background and a brief summary of the documents. It also announces a 60-day public comment period on the analysis and on CWM's preferred alternative, which is to close the subject wastes in place at the landfill. The public comment period is scheduled to last 60 days, through November 8, 2020. Following the close of the comment period, ODOE will review and respond to all substantive comments and issue a determination accepting or rejecting the preferred alternative. Instructions for submitting comments are included. Additionally, ODOE held two public meetings to allow discussion of the documents, both on September 30, 2020.

Climate

Although our legislative report has a separate section on Climate, there is obviously a nexus with many of the reports in this Natural Resource section. We encourage you to read both reports.

Coastal Issues

The House Energy and Environment Committee heard testimony around Facebook's Abandoned Drilling Equipment in Tierra Del Mar near Pacific City (to lay fiber-optic cables). Rep. Gomberg will have a legislative concept drafted to increase the bonding requirements. Testimony from affected landowners included that our land-use laws failed in allowing this project between residential homes and that the Dept. of State Lands should have been more engaged and certainly informed once the drill broke as they left hazardous materials under Oregon's seas.

Department of Environmental Quality

DEQ is asking the Environmental Quality Commission to approve new proposed rules establishing requirements for high hazard railroad contingency planning concerning transporting oil by rail. These rules

requirements for high hazard railroad contingency planning concerning transporting oil by rail. These rules would be added to OAR 340 Division 141. All meetings are online only. The next committee meeting will take place Oct. 6 from 2-5p.m. This meeting will be open to the public. Community members may attend, but only to observe and not to actively participate. The committee may designate time on the agenda to hear community comments as time allows. Later in this rulemaking proceeding DEQ will invite public comments on and will hold a public hearing about the proposed rules. At that time any member of the public may submit comments and participate in the public hearing. To learn more about this rulemaking and the advisory committee you can view the rulemaking [web page](#). If you want to receive future email notices about this rulemaking, you must sign up at: [Environmental Cleanup Program GovDelivery](#) or contact Kyrion Gray, 503-229-5280, Gray.kyrion@deq.state.or.us

Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) (Peggy Lynch)

The DOGAMI House Bill 2202 (2013) Rules Advisory Committee (RAC) has started the process of writing a new rule for aggregate mining on high-value farm soils in the Willamette Valley. The RAC will meet on Thursday, October 8, from 9 am to 12 noon to gather external guidance on the rule language and to identify the potential impacts of implementing the new rule. The meeting will be conducted via teleconference/web meeting application. Note that interested members of the public can listen in to this meeting but will not be allowed to contribute to the RAC discussions. The public comment period for the proposed rule will be scheduled at the end of the RAC process via Notice from the office of the Oregon Secretary of State. To listen in on the meeting please contact Becky Johnson at (541) 967-2083 or mlrr.info@oregon.gov for web meeting information. You may also sign up for the DOGAMI-rulemaking listserv on our web site at: <https://www.oregongeology.org>. House Bill 2202 (HB 2202) was passed in the 2013 legislative session and resulted in ORS 517.825, which became effective on August 1, 2013. Contact: Vaughn Balzer, Cell: 541-231-8368, Vaughn.Balzer@oregon.gov

Elliott State Forest

Here is a [link](#) to learn the status of our iconic forest. Of interest is information presented by Oregon State University (OSU) at the July 23rd Advisory Committee Meeting: [OSU research treatment](#), [OSU letter from the dean](#). The current schedule is for the State Land Board to consider a decision on Dec. 8th. A robust public engagement is planned in advance of this meeting.

Forestry (Josie Koehne)

The Board of Forestry met on September 9 to hear a devastating wildfire report, the 2020 Fire Season Update, by Travis Medema, Eastern Oregon Area Director, on the state of Oregon's wildfires that were still raging out of control. These fires were caused by severe drought conditions, hot weather, and extreme wind events of 25 to 50 mph that had magnified just a few days before on Monday, September 7, and had spread from several August 16 lightning fires from the Beachie Creek and Lionshead Fires, among others. Embers fanned long distances by the windstorms, started more fires spreading mostly from treetop to treetop, on trees and grassland that were parched from extreme drought. Trees fell on powerlines, igniting more fires. As of this date, four other major fires are still burning beside the ones mentioned above.

The costs of these fires in terms of fire suppression, lives, homes and jobs lost, damage to forests both publicly and privately owned, and whole towns destroyed, especially in southern Oregon is horrific and

catastrophic and it will take decades to recover from them. See the Natural Resources LR for details of these costs.

On October 6, the Board of Forestry will vote on whether or not to approve the Department of Forestry's 384-page Western Oregon Habitat Conservation Plan. "A Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) is a required part of an application for an Incidental Take Permit, a permit issued under the United States Endangered Species Act (ESA) to private entities undertaking projects that might result in the destruction of an endangered or threatened species. It is a planning document that ensures that the anticipated take of a listed species will be minimized or mitigated by conserving the habitat upon which the species depend, thereby contributing to the recovery of the species as a whole." (Wikipedia)

If the plan is approved by the Board, it would move on to the National Environmental Act (NEPA) process which requires federal agencies to evaluate the environmental and related social and economic effects of a proposed plan.

The purpose of an HCP is to fulfill in a planned and purposeful way the legal obligations of the 1973 Endangered Species Act which requires the protection of habitat for listed species that are threatened or close to extinction. According to the US Fish & Wildlife Service, more than 430 HCPs have been approved, with many more in the planning stage, which are increasing the size of acres covered. Oregon's HCP would cover ODF-managed forestlands that include 614,000 acres of Board of Forestry lands and 26,000 acres of State of Oregon Common School Lands. (A separate HCP is being developed for the Elliott State Forest.) It maps out conservation areas called Habitat Conservation Areas (HCAs) for terrestrial species including the northern spotted owl, the marbled murrelet, the coastal marten, and the red tree vole, conservation areas for along with three salamanders and 9 fish species along streams called Riparian Conservation Area (RCAs), all within a delineated permit area. Timber harvests are allowed anywhere outside these two HCA and RCA areas that are within the permit area. The Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) presents a balanced approach to satisfying the federal requirement for protecting endangered species while permitting timber harvests on ODF-managed lands in equal measure. See the LWV testimony on the Habitat Conservation Plan. If approved, the "companion" draft Western Forest Management Plan (FMP) who also need to go through an approval process. See our previous testimony on the FMP here.

Other issues of note are a second round of three nominations by Governor Brown for appointment to the Board of Forestry were withdrawn, before being voted on by the Senate Rules Committee due to disagreements about the board representation that went on behind the scenes. See the Sept. 25th [Oregonian article](#) about this controversy and [Senator Golden's comments](#) about it.

Land Use

The Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) held its first public hearing on Draft Rules to implement HB 2001 for large cities and Metro cities and Draft Housing Production Strategy rules under HB 2003. League members Debbie Aiona, Nancy Donovan and Peggy Lynch continue to be engaged in addressing unresolved issues and will be attending zoom meetings on Oct. 8 and 12 to provide additional input before LCDC's planned final hearings on Nov. 12 and 13. See Legislative Report on Housing for more information. If you would like to provide comments or submit questions related to HB2001/HB2003 (2019), rulemaking, or the implementation of these bills, please send them to housing.dlcd@state.or.us. Interested parties are also encouraged to sign-up for updates on the rulemaking process at <https://www.oregon.gov/lcd/LAR/Pages/Housing.aspx>.

The full technical report on the Regional Housing Needs Analysis (RHNA) methodology is complete and available on the [HB 2003 project website](#). The full report, including appendices, is a little more than 480 pages and is the culmination of 9 months of conversations, analyses, revisions, feedback, and more analyses. The report includes two versions of a RHNA methodology, the Beta Version and the Recommended Version. At this point, most of the work for the RHNA transfers over to DLCD. They are beginning to organize a series of meetings to have guided discussions about the implementation of the RHNA. This outreach will inform the report they need to submit to the legislature by March 1, 2021. You should reach out to Sean Edging (sean.edging@oregon.gov) if you'd like more details on the outreach plan.

The legislature is creating a Systems Development Charge Work Group under Rep. John Lively. See 1:34 of the House Interim Committee on Economic Development [video](#). Also, Gwenn Baldwin of Oregon Smart Growth provided a handout with their [issues](#) to be considered.

Due to the Labor Day Wildfires, LCDC is considering temporary rules to help landowners and local jurisdictions as they work to rebuild after the loss of almost 2,300 homes and over 1,500 other structures. Many of these homes were mobile or manufactured houses. (Up to 6,000 people have been displaced.) LCDC has scheduled a special meeting on Oct. 22, 1-5p.m. where the rule will be discussed and public testimony taken. It is assumed the 180-day rule will be adopted at that time. For now, DLCD staff is talking with local jurisdictions regarding the issues that need to be addressed. Also expect legislation in the 2021 session, if not before, as Oregon tries to help those who lost their homes. We have learned from our California neighbors that it may take up to a year to clear the toxic debris and even more time to begin the rebuild. But people need temporary housing now. Besides housing, infrastructure such as roads, drinking water and sewer systems may need to be rebuilt. And, in rural areas, wells and septic systems will need to be replaced. Local League volunteers have stepped up to share notes regarding local jurisdiction needs and potential actions which will help guide LWVOR in any testimony we might give to this issue. You can help, too! DLCD's regional representatives have been valuable in helping coordinate actions and the Governor has designated the Regional Solutions Teams with agency coordination work.

A new Climate Change Adaptation document has been prepared by DLCD staff with input from 24 natural resource agencies. Both climate and natural resource League people are following as we were involved in the 2010 document. We expect to provide input before their Oct. 31 public comment deadline. The Framework is a guide for state leadership and staff as they make decisions about where and how to invest resources as our climate changes. Many of these investments will be implemented in collaboration with local government and community partners. The [draft Framework](#) can be downloaded from DLCD's website. When you visit that [website](#) you will have the opportunity to join the Climate Change Adaptation mailing list. You can also view the webinars held these past few weeks. Written comments should be emailed to: DLCD.climatechange@state.or.us.

Pesticides

[Rules](#) are being considered to address the use of chlorpyrifos at the Dept. of Agriculture. The comment period ends Oct. 22.

Transportation

Oregon's roads will need repair after the fires: "ODOT has started removing hazard trees on OR 138 E, OR

126 McKenzie Highway and Oregon 22 North Santiam Highway. While ODOT is still assessing how many trees it will need to remove, estimates put the number of hazard trees along the OR 22 corridor alone in the hundreds of thousands. Roads will remain closed until ODOT can remove debris from affected areas, inspect slopes for weakness, inspect bridges, pavement, culverts, signs, guardrail and other structures for damage, and make repairs. Rock scaling — to bring down materials that threaten roads — will be used where needed. Even after roads are fully reopened, heavy rain will be a concern in fire-stricken areas and ODOT may have further work to do to stabilize hillsides or clear debris from falls. Slides and debris flows are a particular concern — especially after rains — in areas where fire stripped away vegetation, tree roots and underbrush, creating greater slide danger.” ODOT’s [wildfire resources webpage](#) includes information on closures, repairs and assessments to date, links to photos, videos and more. You can also sign up for news and emergency alerts.

See information in the Climate section on the Statewide Transportation Strategy and Every Mile Counts programs.

Water

The U.S. Drought Monitor indicates deteriorating conditions and 14 counties are currently under a Governor’s drought declaration with an additional request pending. In spite of these recent rains, Oregon continues to be in a long-term drought—one of the factors leading to the tinder dry forests, brush and grass and part of our continued wildfire danger. Statewide our water year precipitation remained below average at 81% as of Sept. 21.

The USGS reports the loss of a number of [river gages](#) during these wildfires. Also, as winter rains come, rivers along these burned areas will need to be protected from silt and ash. We can expect harmful algal blooms as the ash accumulates.

With the loss of homes in rural areas with the wildfires, the League will look forward to supporting funding for the Septic System Loan Program we have supported in the past. The program provides for low-cost loans to homeowners and small businesses who need to repair or replace their systems.

The legislature was provided with an update to the dam safety program: 945 dams are covered with 78 considered “high hazard” due to their location (public safety). Twelve of those are in poor condition and 7 unsatisfactory. Many owners do not have the money to repair these dams. It will be yet another issue for the 2021 legislature. It was much appreciated when Rep. Reardon noted that we need adequate funding for ALL natural resource agencies: “What world can we leave for our kids?”

Wetlands

The League is participating in a [Work Group](#) as the state considers whether or not to partially “assume” federal 404 permit authority over some wetlands of the state. The League wants to assure that, should DSL assume the permitting authority, current regulatory environmental protections will remain unchanged.

Wildfires

The League followed SB 1536 (2019), a bill in response to the Governor’s Wildfire Council. That bill, along with

The League followed SB 1536 (2019), a bill in response to the Governor's Wildfire Council. That bill, along with others related to wildfires, did not pass. However, we expect to see much of that bill return in the 2021 session.

You can find the latest updates on Oregon's fires [here](#). You can access this Oregon Wildfire Resources page [here](#).

Note: 70% of rural firefighters who protect homes are volunteers.

Wildfire Update and Words of Thanks (Bill Walsh and Shirley Weathers)

We wish to thank Rogue Valley and State Leagues of Women Voters members for the best wishes and concern sent our way while we camped at the Jackson County Fairgrounds during the evacuation due to the South Obenchain Fire. We were there with our dog and three llamas for six smoky days and nights, provided for along with anywhere from 200-2,000 others by wonderful Jackson County and Expo staff, the Red Cross, dozens of businesses who fed and otherwise assisted people and hundreds of pets and livestock 24/7. There were hundreds of volunteers on site and mounds of donations for evacuees, many of whom escaped South Obenchain or the Almeda Fire with next to nothing. Several local League members offered some very

creative sheltering options for us and our animals, as well as provided information at a time when official channels were struggling to cover the bases.

We are among the very lucky ones. Firefighters diverted the fire from our home and property by under ½ mile. We are grateful, inspired, saddened, and sobered by the experience. And we remind everyone to have [an evacuation plan, e.g.](#), and be ready to implement it. The Almeda Fire shows that wildfire is not just a Wildland Urban Interface matter anymore.

Legislative Hearings of Interest in September

- Sept. 21: Senate Environment and Natural Resources:
<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2019I1/Committees/SENR/2020-09-21-10-00/Agenda>
- Senate Veterans and Emergency Preparedness:
<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2019I1/Committees/SVEP/2020-09-21-13-00/Agenda>
- Sept. 22: House Agriculture and Land Use:
<httpTs://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2019I1/Committees/HAGLU/2020-09-22-08-00/Agenda>
- Senate Housing and Development:
<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2019I1/Committees/SHDEV/2020-09-22-13-00/Agenda>
- House Natural Resources: <https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2019I1/Committees/HNR/2020-09-22-15-00/Agenda>
- Sept. 23: House Committee on Water:
<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2019I1/Committees/HWTR/2020-09-23-13-00/Agenda>
- Sept. 24: House Committee on Energy and Environment:
<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2019I1/Committees/HEE/2020-09-24-15-00/Agenda>
- Look for a third special session to be called after the November 3rd election. The next interim committee meetings are scheduled for Dec. 7-11.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED YEAR ROUND! League members are engaged in rulemaking, workgroups and task forces as we prepare for the next session. We need observers, notetakers and or testifiers at

task forces as we prepare for the next session. We need observers, notetakers and or testifiers at natural resource agency Boards and Commissions. If you are interested in natural resource issues, please contact Natural Resources Coordinator Peggy Lynch @ peggylynchor@gmail.com.

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Revenue and Tax Reform

By Josie Koehne, Revenue Coordinator

Revenue Update

Back in June, we were looking at a negative revenue balance of -\$662 million, but by September, the increase in revenue now gives us a \$1.7 billion positive ending balance, even more than pre-COVID conditions! \$173

million came in relative to the Close of Session forecast. How did this happen? The [Oregon Office of Economic Analysis](#) explains that this was due to several unexpected factors:

General Fund

- Revenues (\$1.3 billion) from the personal income tax (PIT) and business taxes that are reported as personal tax income (called pass-throughs) were strong from middle- and upper-income Oregonians (many of whom worked from home online) who were not hurt by the COVID hits to the economy. Tax returns were from a strong 2019 economy. However, those in the lowest third of the income bracket suffered big losses (such as in fishing and food packing, farmworkers, restaurants and the hospitality sector) and is still felt strongly in the Hispanic and the BIPOC communities.
- The one-time \$14 billion federal income subsidies in the CARES Act of \$1200 per taxpayer and for Payment Protection Program (PPP) loans to businesses helped and even contributed to increased savings
- Unemployment insurance is taxed and recipients received an extra \$600 per week from the federal government through the CARES Act, which added to PIT receipts
- The Corporate Activities Tax came in from late filers some of which are from the most profitable businesses (\$394 million)
- Special session rebalancing with E-board revenues also helped
- Actual job losses were 14%, rather than 21%, as some claims were filed but never used
- The new forecast projects a 3-year recovery rather than 4 years

Other Revenues

- Lottery revenues were down when bars and restaurants closed in March due to COVID, but when they reopened with pent-up demand, revenues quickly rebounded, 40% stronger than the last forecast predicted
- The CAT tax brought in \$17 million
- Marijuana brought in \$30 million in revenue

Wildfire Effects

Nearly 800,000 acres burned as of Sept 15, 54% on public forestlands and 46% on privately owned land and forests. 2% of Oregonians (85,000 people) were evacuated and 1% (20,000) jobs were affected. Next year, however, there should be economic gains due to 2,000 new housing starts and 2,100 jobs in rebuilding and replanting, but there is still much uncertainty concerning the costs of doing business and possible reductions in in-migration that can slow economic recovery.

Oregon has better reserve funds compared to some other states, some of which was tapped this year, with \$3 billion left until the end of the 2021 biennium, which is about 15% of the General Fund, which includes the Education Stability Fund and the Rainy Day Fund.

Revenue Warning

The Office of Economic Analysis offers this warning however: “The fact of the matter is, the economic pain has yet to be fully reflected in Oregon’s revenue data. Timing is part of the reason. The unique nature of the

COVID-19 downturn led to a sudden stop of economic activity. It will take some time for the fallout from this shock to work its way through the economy and eventually appear on tax returns. At the onset of a typical recession, it takes a couple of years after suffering a recessionary shock before payrolls and economic output bottom out.” And some lower profit industries, particularly retail trade, restaurants, hospitality and travel-related industries may experience permanent damage or very slow recovery.

If you are willing and able to follow tax issues, we need you! You determine your own level of volunteered time. Will you work from home to read and analyze bills, watch committee hearings recorded on OLIS, or write summaries on bills for this Legislative Report? Contact lwvor@lwvor.org.

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Social Policy

By Marge Easley, Bill Walsh, Nancy Donovan, Karen Nibler and Debbie Aiona, Social Policy Portfolio

Gun Safety (Marge Easley)

Voters in four Oregon counties will have a Second Amendment Sanctuary Ordinance (SASO) on the ballot this election cycle: Clatsop, Columbia, Coos, and Umatilla. The purpose is to prohibit the enforcement of “extraterritorial” firearm regulations. Extraterritorial regulations are defined as “any local, state, or federal firearm regulation that conflicts with the right to bear arms as guaranteed by the Second Amendment.” The ordinance states that violations would result in a fine of up to \$2000 per individual or \$4000 per corporation.

Similar ordinances have already been adopted in 16 counties and two cities in Oregon, including three of the

Similar ordinances have already been adopted in 10 counties and the cities of Eugene, Medford and the counties listed above (Columbia, Coos, and Umatilla), but gun rights activists are now hoping to pass a different version of the ordinance, which they believe will have a stronger legal basis. According to *The Trace*, as of January 2020, 400 municipalities in 20 states have declared themselves “Second Amendment sanctuaries.”

The League concurs with a number of state attorneys general that these ordinances have no legal basis, and we will continue to advocate against them. Oregon’s preemption statute (ORS 166.170) asserts that the authority to regulate firearm laws is vested solely in the State Legislative Assembly. We agree with Mary B. McCord, a former acting assistant attorney general for national security, who argued in the Washington Post that only a court can overturn a state or federal law. She wrote, “State constitutions, statutes, and common law generally affirm the ‘supremacy’ of federal and state law, meaning that local jurisdictions are preempted from enacting conflicting ordinances and resolutions.”

Healthcare (Bill Walsh)

The [Senate Interim Committee on Health Care](#) met on 9/21/20 and heard updates from OHA on COVID-19 and CCO issues, a presentation on COVID testing strategies, and a report from the Universal Health Care Task Force. The chair and members mentioned three Legislative Concepts they are working on: 1) creating a Dental Therapist Program, allowing dental hygienists to do a dozen more basic procedures under a dentist’s supervision; 2) Vaping Licensure, and 3) Autism.

On 9/22/20, the [House Interim Committee](#) heard a presentation on co-prescribing Naloxone Narcan with opioid drugs, a practice done in nine other states. Chair Andrea Salinas will draft a bill on this. They heard a report on Reverse Auction, whereby the state would become its own PBM (pharmacy benefit manager) and run a three-round bidding process to determine the best price for certain drugs. PHARMA is suing to fight this in other states. This could be a bill in 2021. The SB 889 Sustainable Health Care Cost Growth Target Implementation Committee reported on its activities to set a lower state target growth rate on private and public programs of 3.4% (down from the current 6.5%). They are studying the “value-based model” payment system like Kaiser uses rather than fee-for-service. What’s most important about this is that it would constitute a whole system change process rather than changing one sector at a time. They will organize a meeting in the fall to determine if players and payers will go along with this concept voluntarily. OHA Director Pat Allen responded to Committee questions about vaccine planning. Subject to change, he said OHA and CDC are planning some vaccine availability in Q4 2020 and it will roll out in three phases: phase 1A will be for health care workers, 1B in mid 2021 for essential workers and people 65+; next, phase 2 for travelers such as migrant workers and people with disabilities; phase 3 in late 2021 for broader public access. It is unknown if there will be single or multiple shots, temperature storage levels, and there even could be 3 or 4 vaccines. OHA is using the Planning and Strategy Advisory Committees to prepare.

The [Joint Task Force on Universal Health Care](#) met on 9/29. They adopted operating principles and a draft work plan. They endorsed a 13-member Consumer Advisory Committee and formed four Technical Advisory Groups to work on aspects of universal coverage. Senator Michael Dembrow provided the legislative history and the values driving the Task Force from SB 770, including the need for a Single-Payer system to meet the COVID crisis we’re facing. Former Governor John Kitzhaber provided his views that Oregon could pursue other ways to universal coverage, mainly changing the fee-for-service to a value-based payment methodology, delinking health insurance from employment, and signing up everyone who is eligible for subsidies. He would support Single Payer also, but thought incremental steps were needed before we could get there

Housing (Nancy Donovan and Debbie Aiona)

In addition to responding to COVID-19, housing providers are working rapidly with homeless populations to provide indoor non-congregant housing options to shelter people safely after the fires while adhering to social distancing measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19. They also are working tirelessly to set up emergency shelters, food assistance, evacuation centers and providing other forms of emergency support.

COVID-19 Eviction Moratorium on rents

On September 28, 2020, Governor Kate Brown issued a new residential eviction ban to ensure renters in Oregon are protected from evictions until December 31, 2020. This ban will address housing needs due to COVID-19 and wildfire response and recovery efforts. This new executive order will help keep Oregonians in their homes until the Legislature can convene later this year to address housing needs.

In the first special session of this year, the Legislature passed [HB 4213](#), establishing a residential and commercial eviction moratorium through September 30, 2020, with a six-month repayment period. During the June Special Session, legislators passed [HB 4204](#) establishing a foreclosure moratorium, and gave the Governor authority to extend the moratorium if needed. Last week Governor Kate Brown extended the foreclosure moratorium for non-payment evictions effective from September 30 through December 31, 2020. Oregonians in need should contact their local Homeownership Center to learn more.

As stated in the executive order the Governor said "Since the Legislature passed House Bill 4231, thousands of people have been displaced by massive and devastating wildfires and the global pandemic continues to make it difficult for many Oregonians, including Oregon's veterans and many families with children, to pay rent through no fault of their own".

Update on Last Week's Legislative Days

Last week, the Legislature convened virtually for five days of Committee hearings. These meetings provided Legislators with updates on what's happening in their communities, hearing previews of potential legislation and getting updates on program implementation.

- On Tuesday, Senate Housing and Development Committee [heard updates](#) on the disbursement of and the need for rental assistance and the eviction moratorium.
- On Tuesday, the House Agriculture and Land Use Committee [heard updates](#) on the implementation of HB 2001 and HB 2003, passed by the legislature in 2019.
- Also on Tuesday, the Senate Human Services Committee [heard testimony](#) on youth experiencing homelessness.
- On Thursday, the House Interim Committee on Housing [heard updates](#) on wildfire responses, and the need for rental assistance and the eviction moratorium, as well as racial equity in housing. As proposed, HCSD will provide \$26 million in COVID-19 funding, allocated as follows:
- \$20 million in Coronavirus Relief Funds for March to December 2020 (March to December rent arrears) and
- \$6 million in State General Fund (January-June rent arrears).

Program priorities will include supporting smaller and/or culturally specific providers, supporting the most

rent burden tenants, BIPOC tenants and more. The state must provide loans by December 30th. The agency will issue a Notice of Fund Availability in the next few weeks.

- On Friday, the [Joint Emergency Board](#) added \$10 million in additional resources to the HCSD Wildfire Damage Housing Relief Program. The initial recommendation called for an additional \$2 million, however, after discussion, the Emergency Board revised the proposal to \$10 million.

Police Reform (Barbara Ross)

There will likely be a special session in November. The co-chairs of the Joint Committee on Transparent Policing and Use of Force Reform want some issues covering concerns about police reform to be addressed at that time. The bills they want to be considered relate to regulations around the use of tear gas and other crowd control techniques, officer identification on uniforms, and transparency issues associated with the development of a statewide database (LC's 17, 18, and 19). If these items are taken up there will be opportunities to testify. Different groups are proposing modifications to the bills that were quickly passed in June following the protests related to the George Floyd tragedy.

The use of tear gas has been particularly contentious with different jurisdictions taking different approaches. In Portland, Mayor Wheeler has forbidden the Portland Police Bureau to use tear gas. The state police and the Multnomah county sheriff contend that it is the only effective tool to disperse a crowd when a portion of the group has turned violent.

Counties and cities across the state are beginning to work to implement the police reform legislation. For example in Portland, the Chief of Police announced a new training program to implement the "duty to intervene" legislation. It is a national model called ABLE (Active Bystander for Law Enforcement).

In preparation for the 2021 session, we expect there will be work groups organized by the judiciary committees addressing the expungement of juvenile records, and educational opportunities in the adult prison system. Stay tuned.

Social Policy Updates (Karen Nibler)

Senate Human Services heard a report from the Child Welfare Director, who reported that all children placed in out-of-state treatment programs had been returned to Oregon. The Department of Human Services had very few residential treatment programs and had contracted with private companies out of state. Reports of abusive treatment started the process to return children home and cancelled the out-of-state contracts.

The Federal Family First Prevention Plan (2018) provided funds to work with children in their own homes to prevent out-of-home placement. Behavioral health resources for children were funded in 2019 but the current availability and development of access to behavioral health treatment is not known.

The House Human Services Committee focused on the family crises as a result of the fire damage. Emergency Management staff provided resources for shelter, food and applications for state assistance programs. The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families raised the eligibility levels for resources so more families were eligible for state programs and the federal food program.

The COVID spread of disease hit Long Term Care facilities and group home facilities for seniors and disabled adults and children. Quarantines were required to protect residents from outside infections.

Both committees discussed future issues that should be considered in the next legislative sessions. Resources for Runaway and Homeless Youth were high on that list. The 211 Information line staff asked for immediate and future increases in funding due to the demands in calls during the fire crises.

The Joint Senate and House Judiciary Committees heard about Consumer Privacy Protection issues from the Attorney General. The AG staff discussed federal privacy laws and attempts to pass privacy laws in other states. A newly formed workgroup on Medical Liability laws has been learning about medical claims and resolution processes that have arisen with the COVID-19 epidemic.

The Department of Corrections staff answered questions about services to prison inmates and the recent early release of prisoners. In July, 67 prisoners were released after a vetting process. Additional prisoner records have been reviewed and more inmates will be released periodically every 2 months. The COVID epidemic in prison populations was an incentive for early release for those who may be vulnerable and had complied with prison programs.

In the 2019 session a new Justice Center Program, "Remembering", was initiated. The intent was to provide legal services for women inmates at Coffee Creek for family court or civil court issues. The program attorneys reported difficulty in making phone contact with inmates who were potential clients. The CC staff reported difficulty in access to phones and staff supervision. There will be follow up reports in future legislative hearings.

The E Board considered a few agency requests from The Department of Human Services for Vocational Rehabilitation, The Department of Justice for Child Advocacy Centers, and Oregon Youth Authority for computer system updates. Other allocations were for Emergency Management, Unemployment Benefits and Fire Season costs which impacted Oregon residents in the wildfire areas.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED! If any of these areas interest you, please contact lwvor@lwvor.org.

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