



Son of 97 tax needed to fund 15,000 new gov't jobs

STATE EMPLOYEES
MAKE ALMOST
DOUBLE
WHAT AVERAGE
WORKING
OREGONIANS MAKE

State employees make an average \$89,000 in wages/benefits compared to the average Oregon worker at \$45,893.

Statesman Journal
March 1, 2016



OREGON ADDS
17 NEW
GOVERNMENT
JOBS EVERY
SINGLE
DAY



GRAPHIS NOT TO SCALE

Source:
State of Oregon
Employment Department

Government unions and liberal politicians are working on a giant Son of Measure 97 tax for the 2017 Legislature because they need billions to fund their explosive government job growth and to bailout their at-risk pension fund.

Every day, Oregon state and local governments hire an average 17 new public employees. So far in 2016, Oregon has already hired 5,800 new government employees, and the year is not even finished.

With each new government hire comes a hefty price tag. The average state employee cost (wage and benefits) in Oregon is a whopping \$89,000. The average wage for private sector Oregon workers is only \$45,893 - - just a little over half of what state employees are making.

\$400 million lost to wage over-pay

Even if you compare state and private employees holding the same positions, you will find that government jobs pay a lot more. A report on state wages by then Democrat Governor Ted Kulongoski showed that the wage gap of comparable private sector jobs is so large that if the State of Oregon paid the same rate as the private sector, Oregonians would save over \$400 million in tax dollars.

Government employees more likely to die at their job than be fired

With each new government position comes permanent job security where it is hard to layoff or change the position. A USA Today federal study shows that government employees are more likely to die at their job than be fired.

Employees paid even when they don't exist

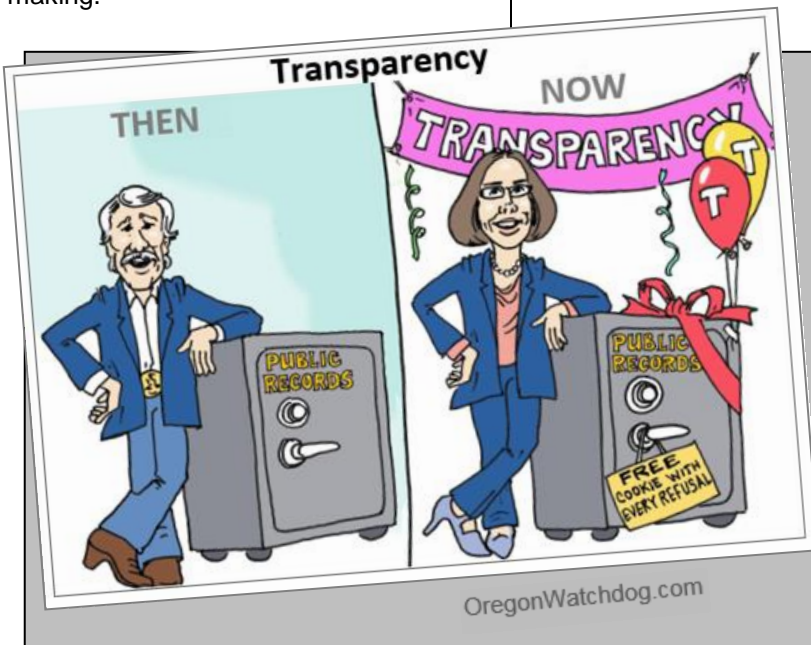
Creating new government jobs is expensive even if you don't hire anybody. The State of Oregon pays out real tax dollars to vacant positions where no employee exists. Previously the state of Oregon had over 3,000 positions that were vacant but still receiving tax funds.

Retirement pensions \$22 billion behind

The Oregon Public Employee Retirement System (PERS) is officially \$22 billion in deficit. Oregon has been, for many years, the only state in the nation where government employees pay nothing into their own retirement like other states.



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The Cartoon that Woke up the Governor's office

We got upset at Gov. Kate Brown for delaying public records request and charging excessive fees to our friends at Oregon Capitol Watch, so we created this cartoon. **Within five hours of broadcasting this cartoon the Governor's office responded directly.**

Governor Brown's office immediately released the requested records and even waived the excessive fees (\$2,000) they previously charged. Before our cartoon, the governor had delayed by four months a simple public records request for her staff's calendar to see where the governor's office was spending her time. It took a cartoon to end the four month delay & void the excessive fees.