

Unions back 7 new tax ballot measures

Also: • **6% Raises** • **Double pay for not working** • **\$25,000 sex speakers**

The unions are on a billion dollar tax grab by submitting seven tax measures they hope to qualify for the 2014 ballot. These measures increase income taxes on businesses, increases the minimum business tax and even enacts a sneaky dollar gross receipts tax. Just two of the tax measures would cost \$2.5 billion in new taxes.

Unions raises explode!

Kitzhaber approved 4-6% raises for state government employees this year. The Governor gave himself a 5% raise and the Secretary of State received a 6.9% raise. Portland teacher unions are demanding an 11% raise over two years. One national study shows that government wages are growing twice as fast as ordinary jobs and nearly make twice as much.

\$86 million in raises

The state is spending \$86 million on union raises. Coincidentally, Kitzhaber just raised over \$240 million in new taxes.

Unions need new taxes to fund their 6% increases and new government employee hires. More raises, more public employees means more taxes. This is why taxpayers must stop these seven union tax measures. (Oregonian 8/3/13)

\$24,000 sex speaker?

The University of Oregon spent \$24,000 to bring in a sex columnists, Dan Savage, in town to give a speech about sex. His speech included information about the sex lives of people who wear gorilla suits. The \$24,000 speech provided in-depth intellectual insight -- especially when Mr. Savage responded to one students question with "F*** if I know!"

The University also hoped Dan Savage would promote their new college sex-game phone app. Ironically, the University has been very public about its sex life, but extremely private about how they spend

our tax dollars since the \$24,000 speech scandal was only revealed by a public records request from the local newspaper.

The same University just approved 12% raises over three years & six weeks of new paid family leave. (Eugene Register Guard 1-8-13. Campus Faculty Association 10/13/13)

Double pay for not working during shutdown

During the two week government shutdown 4,400 federal workers in Oregon applied for unemployment benefits. This allowed many to collect both an unemployment check and a federal paycheck for missing pay for when the shut-down was resolved and back payments were made. Oregon happily doled out \$830,000 in these double dipping unemployment benefits, yet it was the Federal Labor Dept. that felt embarrassed and enacted rule changes making such double payouts unlawful. (Washington Post, 10-23-13)

"Cover Oregon" Health Exchange blows \$82 million -- can't enroll a single person!

Not a single Oregonian has been enrolled in Obamacare's "Cover Oregon" website despite the spending over \$82 million in tax dollars. Oregon was one of the first to start early on the website and was awarded the third largest federal grant to build the exchange, yet now it is among the worst in the nation.

In total, the federal government has spent more than a half billion on this project. Some forecast using GAO estimates that may cost \$2 billion to run the exchanges in 2014. Not only is the project expensive but it was built with several no-bid contracting. With no-bid contracting you lose transparency and accountability which often results in flawed government projects where taxpayers pick up the bill.

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The Taxpayer Association was quoted on the FRONT PAGE of the Oregonian exposing Kitzhaber's hiding the Legislative process behind closed doors

Here is the Taxpayer Association quote in The Oregonian.

"Kitzhaber had an entire legislative session to do something and he took a nap and he wakes up after session. He's going to make a deal behind closed doors when taxpayers are going to be denied a chance to testify." (Oregonian 9/19/13)

Our quote proved true. Kitzhaber called a special session in October. We call it a "secret session" because the deals are made behind closed doors. Such sessions lack transparency and citizen participation. This is among the worst type of legislating.



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