

September 2009

Likely Measures Protect School Funding

January 2010 Ballot Measure Election

As students, educators, and parents prepare for the beginning of another school year, large corporations are gathering signatures to attempt to overturn critical two legislative measures that protect school funding by increasing the \$10 corporate minimum income tax and raising taxes on household income above \$250,000.

By increasing taxes on corporations and rich households, the measures raise \$733 million to protect funding for education, healthcare, and public safety. 93% of the state budget pays for those three services. Specifically, these measures will keep class sizes manageable, keep teachers in classrooms, and protect vital programs that students depend on.

These measures are about keeping funding in our classrooms and making sure that corporations are paying their fair share to protect our future. If the opponents of these measures are successful in forcing them to the ballot, the election will be held on January 26, 2010.

Oregon PTA and other school supporters have joined the fight to protect schools and services for kids. We need your help to Vote Yes for Schools.

The Measures:

- Increase the \$10 corporate minimum income tax, paid by two-thirds of corporations in the state, for the first time since 1931 (the new minimum will start at \$150)
- Increase the marginal tax rate on corporate profits above \$250,000 by 1.3% (above \$10 million in 2013) and
- Increase marginal tax rate on personal income above \$250,000 for couples by 1.8% (until 2013). According to the legislative revenue office the personal increase will affect only about 2.5% of taxpayers. Marginal tax rates apply only to the amount earned above the income threshold, not on all income earned by a taxpayer.

The outcome of these measures will have a major impact on school budgets,

beginning in the middle of the '09/10 school year. Including Federal matching funds, these measures protect \$1 billion in funding for vital services.

Learn more about this fight and join us in voting Yes for Schools. Go here to sign the Defend Oregon Pledge to show your support for tax fairness and protecting vital services: <http://defendoregon.org/getinvolved.html>

<http://www.oregonpta.org/> and www.defendoregon.org

PTA partners legislative report available on line.

COSA and OSBA have prepared a summary of statutes passed in the last legislative session.

Find it here: <http://www.osba.org/leginfo/report/index.asp>

Oregon Lottery Commission to consider retailer contract
Millions in Lottery proceeds for schools part of consideration.

The Lottery Commission is in the process of reviewing its contract with vendors. One of the issues is what is a fair contract rate of compensation for lottery vendors. The Commission will take input until October.

Superintendent of Public Education Susan Castillo supports revised rates for vendors.

See her statement here: <http://www.ode.state.or.us>

Submit your comments to the lottery commission here:
<http://info.oregonlottery.org/041.htm>