

Summer 2009 Government Waste Watch Report

Legislature spends \$175 Million to create 16 jobs

\$175 million to create 16 jobs.

In January, in record speed the politicians borrowed a hefty \$175 million. They promised to create 3,000 new fast-track jobs by April to propel Oregon out of the recession. In April, it was recorded that only 16 new jobs were created. Fully embarrassed, Legislative leaders threatened to cut funding to any State Agency receiving the funds if the paid jobs promised were not created by June.



Kulongoski asks America to stop buying!

Governor Kulongoski chose the recession to debut his

new prophetic message that people need to repent for their "buying" sins to save the planet. The New York Times said "Oregon's governor thinks Americans will need to scale back their consumerism because it is harming the environment". Kulongoski himself said, "There's a lifestyle issue involved in this, about our penchant for consumerism and consumption. Other than taxes, the hardest thing I find to talk with my citizens about is about changing lifestyles. We've wasted 8 to 10 years in not engaging our citizens, and that's why Europe is so far ahead of us." (Apparently Oregon must catch up to Europe's famous long standing high unemployment).

If spending too much is a sin then Kulongoski is the chief criminal. The governor's last budget grew 21%. This year he called for \$2 billion in new taxes and 1,400 new government employees. Taxpayers are expected to sacrifice and live without, while government lives richly and grows even in a recession.

Widows and orphans tax

Rep. Chuck Riley (D-Hillsboro) is pushing HB 2854 which would tax the insurance benefits of widows and orphans when a loved one dies. No other state has such a tax. This tax would impact over 2 million Oregonians.

\$740,000 for free prison soda pop.

Common Sense Oregon discovered that the state spends \$74,000 every year on free pop for inmates.

Quarter billion in government raises

One of the reasons Democrat Legislative leaders are calling for tax increases is to cover Kulongoski's negotiated \$250 million in raises for government employees to take effect this summer.



TAO Director speaking before Tax Day Rally at State Capitol



Fighting the income tax increase plan
KGW-8 5/13/09



Defending the Tax Day Rallies for giving taxpayers a voice
KOIN-6 4/14/09



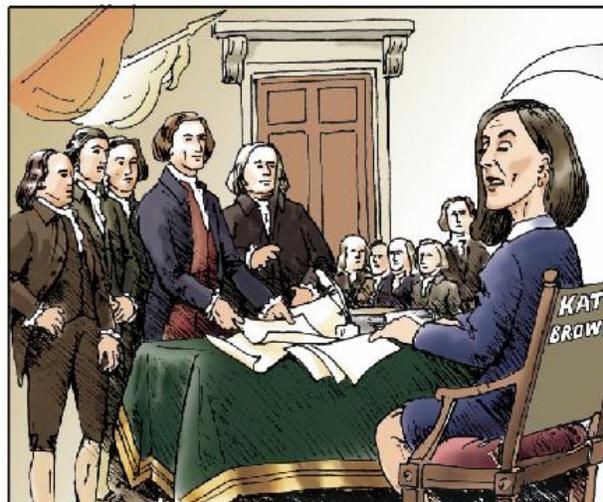
Criticizing the 21% state budget growth
KGW 8 2/2009

Public Pension (PERS) in \$18 Billion debt again.

In 2003 Oregon's generous public pension system was in a \$16 billion deficit. This created a fiscal crisis and required quick law changes to fix the debt. Now five years later, the system is back in the red. The reasons are the bad economy and higher than average dependency on investment returns. Payouts to government retirees under the old, expensive system have depleted its entire reserve fund.

TURKEY BILLS

- HJR 21 designates official state dirt.
- HB 3449 prohibits discrimination based on height.
- HJM 7 urges Congress to shift funds from the federal military budget to the states to use however they wish.
- HB 3452 allows nonresident property owners in historic ghost towns to vote in city elections.



As Secretary of State I void this petition and signatures due to incorrect paper weight, color and sorting. Also, your circulators were not pre-approved by King George.

oregonwatchdog.com

Attacking our Petition Rights: The politicians are trying to set a 30-day expiration date for citizen signatures gathered through paid staff petition gatherers. If you fail to give the Secretary of State a signature sheet in 30-days then your signature is void.