

# Oregon Legislature passes workers bill

By Andrew Selsky  
Associated Press

SALEM, Ore. (AP) — Workers in Oregon for large companies will know their schedules in advance, saving them from scrambling to arrange child care and enabling them to have more orderly lives, under a bill the state Legislature passed on Thursday.

The bill was described as being a first among U.S. states. Rep. Ann Lininger, D-Lake Oswego, one of its sponsors, said it could become a national model.

Under the bill, passed by the House on Thursday and previously approved by the Senate, retailers and food services and hospitality businesses that have 500 or more employees worldwide must give notice of schedules at least seven days in advance as of July 2018, and at least 14 days in advance as of July 2020.

More than 100 Oregonians wrote to lawmakers supporting or opposing the bill.

Among them was Alexandria Levin, a resident of Portland, who strongly backed it.

“People need to be able to plan for doctor and dentist appointments, as well as know when they can sign up for courses and classes,” she wrote. “If people work part-time, then they need to know when they might be available for a second part-time job, because they most likely will need one.”

The companies must also give workers 10 hours rest between two shifts, which they can waive and receive time-and-a-half rates.

Julie Harbold, who owns a Subway sandwich shop in Portland, called the measure “completely unrealistic in operations of actual business.”

“Our restaurants run on such narrow margins, are faced with rising minimum wage costs and are often in fluctuations that are not within our control as far as weather, customer flows, and unforeseen variables,” Harbold said.

Other states considering similar initiatives include Connecticut, California, North Carolina, and Ohio, said Carrie Gleason, director of the Fair Workweek Initiative, which has led the organizing nationwide.

## SHOW: ‘Elegant’ system in place to organize quilts

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Executive Director Jeanette Pilak told *The Nugget*. “Gary Miller and Ann’s brains are this system.”

Pilak noted that a lot of work goes into assigning space for each quilt, based on the dimensions and color scheme of each Sisters building — all with the goal of showing off the quilts in the best possible light. It’s not done willy-nilly, which is something that is sometimes hard to communicate to quilters.

“Every year we have people who show up on Quilt Show day with their quilt and say, ‘where do I hang this?’” Pilak said.

Pilak noted that when she takes show sponsors like fabric manufacturers around town for a tour, “they are just gobsmacked (by) how all the quilts go together. They’re not just thrown up.”

Pilak estimates that it takes three full eight-hour days to sort and assign the quilts. Part of the effort



PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

## Memorial quilts using shirts from loved ones are popular at the Sisters Outdoor Quilt Show.

involves bringing in new volunteers to learn the ropes, because, as Pilak notes, it’s critical to retain and pass on knowledge of the system and protocol to younger volunteers who will carry the SOQS into the future.

On Friday, 93-year-old Virginia Bradley brought in her quilts for registration — just as she has done every year since 1976.

“All of Virginia’s quilts are done by hand,” Pilak noted.

“I grew up quilting and I never quit,” Bradley said. “Quilting is my life, really.”

It’s an expression of my heart. It’s an expression of love for material and love for the finished product. There’s a quilt on every bed at home.”

That kind of passion is common among quilters, and is reflected in this year’s show theme — “Every Quilt Has A Story.”

Many quilts are composed of physical manifestations of memory — such as the shirts of a father who has recently died.

All will be on vivid display across Sisters on July 8, starting at 9 a.m.



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