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## COMMUNITY Anti-packaging campaign continues despite ruling

## By Rene DeCair Emerald Reporter

Proponents of Measure 6 said Wednesday their campaign to mandate changes in product packaging is alive and well, de-spite a judge's ruling that it is invalid.

The group sponsoring the measure. Consumers for Re-cycling, held a news conference not only to dispel rumors that the race was off but also to "expose lies" in the campaign against the measure, said Joel Ario, the group's chairman.

Ario said he is optimistic about keeping the measure on the ballot. "We're quite confident ... that this decision will be reviewed by the courts," he said.

Measure 6 is one of eight measures that may be omitted from the ballot in the November election. A Marion County judge declared ballot measures 4. 5, 7, 11 and 6 invalid earlier this week because election officials did not receive written certification of fiscal impact statements.

If the courts don't put the measures back on the ballot, Consumers for Recycling will push the Legislature to call a special session to settle the matter, Ario said.

When asked if he thought public response to the measure would change because of the furor over their validity, Ario said, "The public is quite an-gry over this."

He added, however, that he believes it is unfair to point the finger at elections officials.

Ario would not say who he

thought was responsible, but said. "I think our opponents ultimately shot themselves in the foot.

**Consumers** for Recycling is continuing its campaign; so is its opposition, Oregon Committee for Recycling, which ran a television advertisement against Measure 6 the day after it was declared invalid.

"We're campaigning on the basis that we will have a ballot measure." said Ginny Burdick. spokeswoman for the committee.

Oregon Committee for Re-cycling claims Measure 6 is merely a ban on packaging and not a recycling initiative. " ' All it does is ban packaging that doesn't meet certain stan-dards." Burdick said. "To do an across the board ban is not only costly, but it won't do anything for recycling."

Consumers for Recycling counters that Measure 6 is neither costly nor just a ban. It says that the measure will save taxpayers money because it will cost between \$500,000 and \$850,000, a third of the cost of a recycling plan offered by the state Department of Environmental Quality.

**Consumers for Recycling also** argues that its proposal is not a complete ban on packaging. but a simple measure that would require packaging to meet one of three standards.

Ario said that the Oregon Committee for Recycling. "can't run the same kind of scare tactics against recycling (in Oregon) that they do in other states" because Oregonians are familiar with recycling.



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