

# POLITICS

## Dix, Bell differ on funding, abortion

By Hope Nealon  
Emerald Contributor

Both candidates in the race for Oregon House District 41 strive for similar goals in the area of school finance and property taxes.

But when it comes to abortion and how to reform Oregon's tax system, incumbent David Dix and his challenger, Marie Bell, offer voters a choice.

Bell, the Republican candidate, and Dix, a Democrat, both seek alternatives to Measure 5, an initiative on the Nov. 6 ballot that would limit property taxes that provide funding for schools and government operations. And they both say they rank educational funding as a top priority.

However, Bell and Dix's approaches to education funding and state spending would eventually be journeys down two different roads.

"Buildings are a part of the solution, but we need to focus on the human needs also, without the proposed tuition increase," he said.

Bell, in her approach to higher education funding, said she believes the most important thing for legislators to do is to pay for the necessities of the state, and then work their way down.

"That means education and people services, and more specifically, salary increases and funding of higher education and community colleges," she said.

"It's time for the state government to be held accountable and tighten their belts" Bell said. Property owners will feel immediate relief, if funds are raised through other means of taxes, Bell said.

But while Bell said she wants to lower property taxes and cut back on the state budget, Dix wants to create a special fund for higher education.

Dix's alternative involves a 5 percent sales tax, which would raise dollars for primary and secondary education throughout the state.

Bell claims that Dix's sales tax plan would never work.

"There is no way in the world we're going to get a sales

### BIOGRAPHY

#### Marie Bell

**Candidacy:** State representative, District 41  
**Party:** Republican  
**Age:** 44  
**Home:** Eugene  
**Occupation:** Homemaker; dental hygienist  
**Background:** Former assistant chairwoman, Lane County Republican Party; Oregon delegate to 1988 Republican National Convention; former LCC instructor

#### David Dix

**Candidacy:** State representative, District 41  
**Party:** Democrat  
**Age:** 33  
**Home:** Eugene  
**Occupation:** Public relations consultant; state representative  
**Background:** State representative, 1987-present; House majority leader, 1988-89; Majority whip, 1987-88; press aide to House Democratic caucus; aide to former U.S. Rep. Jim Weaver, D-Ore.

tax plan presented and paid off in time," she said.

And beyond the debate over money matters, the issue of abortion has become a clear division between the two candidates.

Dix says he will vote no on Measures 8 and 10, the two initiatives on the ballot that would affect the state's abortion laws.

Bell, on the other hand, said she supports measures 8 and 10. But she said she also hopes the issue will stay out of the Legislature. "The system is that we go with the majority," she said. "I'm very, very happy these measures will be on the

ballot. We can each go in and vote our conscience." As for campaign matters, Dix's incumbency may not be an advantage. The Democrat concedes that last year's Democratic caucus campaign financing irregularities are hurting his present campaign. But he points to the secretary of state's findings that found the problem was the result of hiring a poor bookkeeping staff that filed erroneous reports.

Dix said he accepts full responsibility. He has paid \$23,872 in fines. But he also believes "there has been a constant barrage of mudslinging.

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### Correction

In a story in Monday's edition explaining Ballot Measure 7, comments and quotes attributed to Nick Thompson should have been attributed to Irv Jacob. Both support Measure 7. The Emerald regrets the error.

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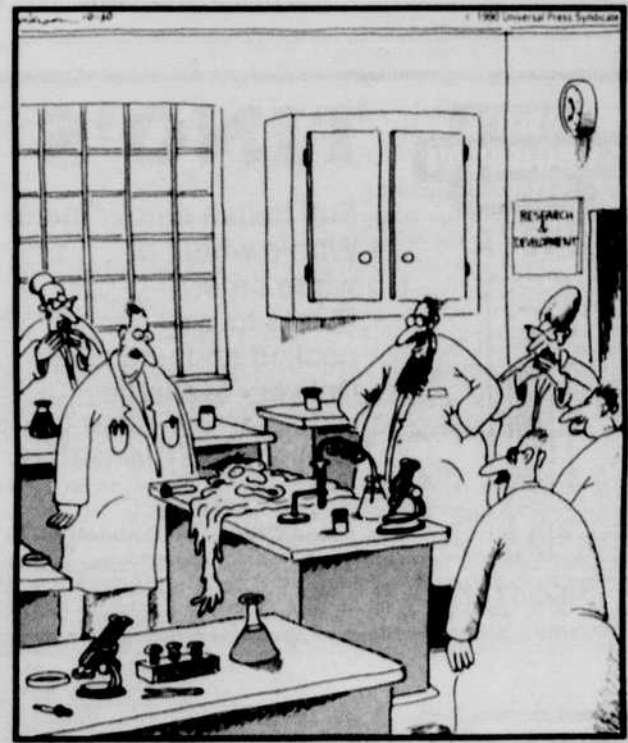
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### THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



"My God! It is Professor Dickle! . . . Weinberg, see if you can make out what the devil he was working on, and the rest of you get back to your stations."

### Oregon DAILY EMERALD

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