

POLITICS

Local Representatives gear up for new session

By Rene DeCair
Emerald Reporter

Now that the Oregon House of Representatives — which convenes in less than two weeks — has appointed committee members, the committees must prepare to do the seemingly impossible: cut state costs and keep needed services working efficiently at the same time.

To make this job a little easier the 1991 House has created a special committee — the Agency Reorganization and Reform Committee — to do the much dreaded task of cutting corners and trying to replace the lost revenue caused by the passage of Measure 5.

House Speaker, District 43 representative and committee member, Larry Campbell, R-Eugene, said the committee has

the responsibility of looking into major cuts of state government. Campbell said the committee is the "best committee ... because of leadership and experience" of its members.

"It's the leadership committee of the Legislature," he said.

Not only are there cuts and costs to contend with, but there's the plain duty of accomplishing committee goals — and each committee has its own agenda and visions for the future.

Campbell is also on the Legislative Rules and Reapportionment Committee along with District 40 representative Carl Hosticka, D-Eugene. The committee is formed every ten years to re-draw the lines of congressional boundaries and is a "re-balancing act so ... the legislator is representing the same number of people in each dis-



Bill Dwyer

trict," Campbell said.

"It becomes an issue that people in politics are very concerned about," Hosticka said. Campbell jokingly said re-de-



Larry Campbell

fining the boundaries is important to politicians because "you could lose your job without an election."

In addition to his appointment on the Legislative Rules and Reapportionment Committee, Hosticka will also serve as vice-chairman of the Revenue and School Finance Committee, whose main goal will be to find alternative funds lost by Measure 5.

"That one will be a very hot issue," Hosticka said, adding that he will opt to replace the lost revenue by instituting a new form of taxation.

Before bringing the proposal of new taxes before the public, Hosticka said he will first wait until people "see there will be a real decline in the quality of life" caused by inadequate funds and budget cuts.

Three other Eugene-area representatives will also serve on various committees that will make decisions directly affecting state operations.

Bill Dwyer, D-Springfield, will sit on the Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resources Committee and will be the vice-chairman of the Water Policy Committee. Dwyer said the agricultural committee deals with issues of forest policy, hunting and game law, farming practices and natural resources.

Dwyer said he "represents a timber-dependent community



Carl Hosticka

... and natural resources are an important part of that community." He said he expects his committee will concentrate on timber supply and reforestation issues and said the committee may also work on the field burning issue, or revise the Forests Practices Act.

Dwyer said he is uncertain of all the issues his committee will examine because it depends on whether the issues they work on will have a revenue consequence of over \$50,000.

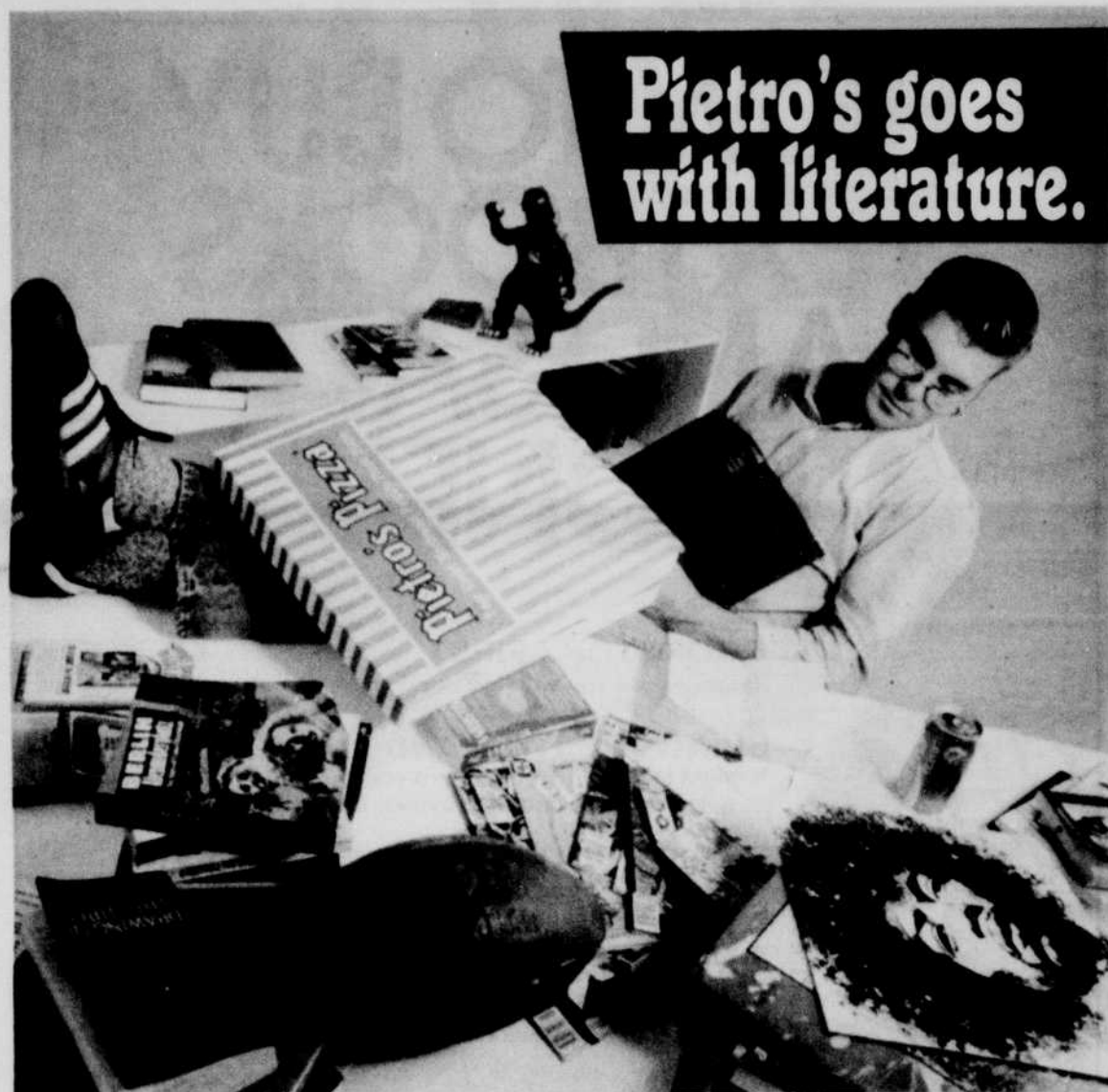
"Any bill that has a revenue consequence ... goes to the revenue committee (first)...if it deals with expenditures then it goes to the Ways and Means Committee (first)," Dwyer said.

Both District 39 representative, Jim Edmunson, D-Eugene and District 41 representative, Marie Bell, R-Eugene, will sit on the Judiciary Committee. Edmunson said this committee is "typically a committee of lawyers" who deal with technical issues of law and the court system.

The Judiciary Committee has three subcommittees that include family justice, crime and corrections, and civil law and judicial administration.

Bell said she will work on the Family Justice Subcommittee

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