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# House hears testimony on taxes

By Katy Moeller Oregon Daily Emerald

For the first time since the Oregon Legislature began this session, the House Revenue and School Finance Committee allowed a hearing on tax reform proposals Thursday

The chairwoman of the House Revenue and School Finance Committee, Rep. Delna Jones, R-Aloha, refused to open hearings until the 1993-95 budget, with all necessary cuts in programs and ser-

vices, was balanced Though few budget bills have been passed, the House Revenue Committee convened the first of several public hearings. House Speaker Larry Campbell, R-Eugene, Rep. Tony Van Vliet, R-Corvallis, and Rep. Carl Hosticka, D-Eugene, provided the first

The House leadership approach has been that the Legislature's first and foremost responsibility is to balance the budget within existing funds," said Campbell.

Campbell spoke on HJR 60, a bill that he is sponsoring that would freeze 1990's Measure 5 rate limitations at the 1993 level. The rate would stay at the \$10 per \$1,000 assessed value for schools and the same for local government.

'I'm sure we all agree the implementation of Ballot Measure 5 down to \$15 per \$1,000 will simply be devastating to this state." he said.

Campbell said his bill would provide Oregonians with much-needed predictability in the property taxes they pay.

The plan put forth by Campbell would save the state \$338 million in 1994-95 and \$410 million a year later, according to statistics from the Legislative Revenue Office.

Campbell expressed concern that state unemployment levels have risen from 7.1 to 7.6 percent.

I hope that you will consider the ability of Oregonians to pay new taxes, not just what package will meet our fiscal needs," he said.

Van Vliet explained the merits of HJR 4, which includes sales tax on goods only, to the committee.

Van Vliet, who is an Oregon State University professor, used charts and graphs to show the committee how large the cuts have been and what the projected funding cuts look like.

"We are very much on a crisis path regardless of the plan that you settle on," Van Vliet said.

He cited statistics compiled by the Legislative Revenue Office that show in 1991-93, the state left \$250-\$300 million on the table in unmet needs.

"We must figure out a way to pick up school costs and the Oregon Health Plan," Van Vliet said.

Under the Van Vliet plan, there would be a sales tax on goods only with exemptions for medical costs, rents, mortgages and food for home consumption. Personal income tax would be reduced by 11 percent in each bracket, Van Vliet said. Corporate income taxes would increase to 7.6 percent.

"The key element that all the tax proposals carry is that each one must be written into the constitution, so that the public can rest assured that the sales tax can't be raised," he said.

# Seminar to address workplace changes

By Jen Ellison Oregon Daily Emerald

With today's workplaces encompassing more personnel diversity, managers need to be able to communicate with all types of people in order to be successful, business school official said Tuesday.

This realization is the basis for education on interpersonal communication within diverse groups at the university level, said Alexis Woods, director of career services at the College of **Business Administration's Grad**uate School of Management.

To start helping University stu-dents understand the importance of appreciating diversity, the business school will host a oneday seminar for graduate stu-dents, faculty and the local business community Friday.

A by-invitation event, the seminar will run from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Chiles Business Cen-

Titled "Managing Diversity in the Workplace," the seminar will be taught by nationally recognized diversity expert Steve Hanamura

Hanamura is the president of Hanamura Consulting of Portland and has worked with international corporations, medium- and small-sized businesses and government agencies across the

'Today's work force demands that all workers bring individuality to their work and allow their experiences and creativity to come forth in a way that contributes to the organization," said Hanamura in a news release.

Woods agrees that the ability

to communicate and lead diverse groups will determine the success of the company.

"The success of today's managers ultimately will rest on their ability to make a positive impact on their company's bottom line," Woods said. "Getting the job done will require communicating and leading diverse work teams, which include minorities, foreign nationals, physically challenged, women and older work-

The seminar has four main objectives: examine barriers facing people who are different; understand why cultural diversity is an important workplace topic; identify the connection between diversity, student life and managing in the workplace; and identify how to manage a diverse workplace.

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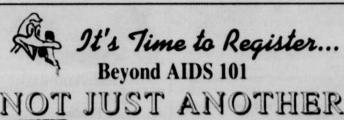
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