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Legislature to consider wine, beer taxes

A new bill geared to cushion the impact of Measure 28's defeat may add 7 cents tax to bottle of beer

Brad Schmidt
News Editor

State legislators will likely introduce a bill today that would drastically increase the taxes on beer and wine to help fund state health services weakened by Measure 28's failure.

The tax increases could occur as early as July if legislators are able to convince lawmakers that raising beer and wine taxes is a viable fix for health services left reeling by statewide cuts. Under the bill's

guidelines, taxes on beer would increase by 7 cents per bottle and by 15 cents for a fifth of wine — hikes that will almost certainly be passed onto the consumer.

The proposal, authored by Sen. Bill Morrisette, D-Springfield, and Rep. Jackie Dingfelder, D-Portland, would raise approximately \$100 million for the Medically Needy program, drug and alcohol addiction programs and mental illness services.

"These are very critical programs that need to be funded," Morrisette said.

Taxes on beer currently stand at less than 1 cent per bottle, while the tax on a bottle of wine is 13.4 cents. Morrisette's proposal would raise taxes on beer to

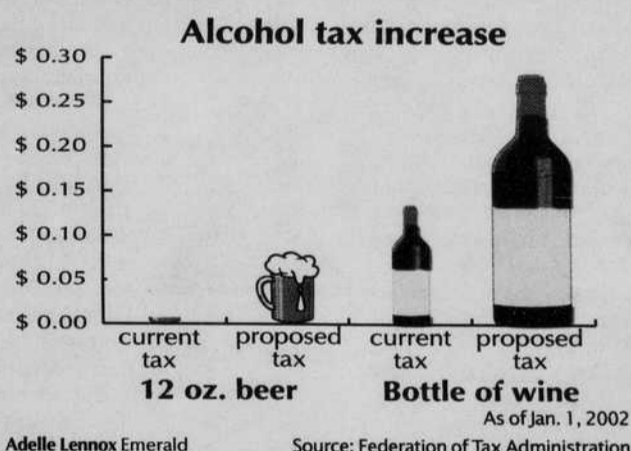
about 7.5 cents a bottle and wine taxes to 28.4 cents per fifth.

According to the Federation of Tax Administrators, as of January 2002, Oregon's wine tax ranked 25th in the nation. Oregon's tax rate on beer, meanwhile, was tied with three other states as fourth lowest in the country. If the new proposal becomes law, Oregon will have the second-highest tax on beer and the seventh-highest tax on wine in the United States.

"I think it's a source of revenue that we haven't tapped into," Morrisette said.

Despite an apparent need to fund the crippled services, Morrisette said it will be

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Timely fashion portrait

The Black Heritage Fashion Show presents traditional and modern clothing and honors individuals

Jennifer Sudick
Copy Chief

Glitter and glamour transformed the EMU Ballroom into a fashion extravaganza Sunday at the 10th annual Alpha Kappa Alpha Black Heritage Fashion Show.

Several hundred people attended "A Portrait Through Time," a showcase of traditional and modern clothing and tributes to musicians, athletes and influential black individuals.

Senior Kawezya Hutchinson said the show was a celebration of black history that all cultures could celebrate together.

"Each year the show gets better," Hutchinson said. "We incorporated a lot more black history (this year)."

Leaders Marcus Garvey and W.E.B. DuBois and singers Bessie Smith and AKA member Ella Fitzgerald were recognized for their achievements.

Images flashed of The Savoy, Cotton Club and Apollo as Hutchinson described Harlem, the "quintessential African American town."

The show also honored contemporary musicians, including Lisa "Left Eye" Lopes and Aaliyah, with a slide show presentation.



Adam Amato Emerald

Models display traditional clothes during the first part of the 10th annual Alpha Kappa Alpha Black Heritage Fashion Show on Sunday in the EMU Ballroom (above). Olivia Callier performed two original songs at the event (below).

"I'm glad we are paying tribute to all of the musical artists of the past who were killed," Oregon State University sophomore and model Joshua Hawkins said.

Victims of the 1948 Portland Vanport District flood were honored with a visual presentation and speech about the oppression black people faced in Oregon during the 20th century.

Portraying the feel of the Cotton Club, a performance titled "After Five" livened the room with modern clothing and provocative dance, followed by a spiced-up salsa performance illustrating how African Americans have influenced the genre. Models also exhibited

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Maya Angelou inspires power, cultural ideals

The world-renowned poet shares readings and anecdotes and challenges youth to change

Ryan Bornheimer
Senior Pulse Reporter

Her opening words, in the form of a melodic spiritual song, would sum up the entire evening's message: "When it looks like the sun won't shine anymore, God puts a rainbow in the clouds."

Dr. Maya Angelou left an unmistakable impression on those in attendance Sunday night at McArthur Court. Carrying a message of empowerment and acceptance, the renowned poet, speaker and performer divided the evening into equal portions of poetry readings and inspiring anecdotes.

Emerging from the wings to a standing ovation, Angelou brought with her a palpable energy that permeated the crowd throughout her hour-long appearance. One couldn't help but feel as though, at least for an evening, Angelou's ideal of cultural harmony was not just a pipe-dream — it was a reality.

Starting with an autobiographical account of her upbringing in Arkansas, the speaker segued into the story of her Uncle Willy, a disabled man who taught the young girl her multiplication tables. Upon his death, Angelou learned that this man, so limited by society's standards, had touched the lives of the first two African American men to hold office in Arkansas. The man inspired her to write a song called "Willy" for the man, which she then performed for the audience.

Over and over, Angelou returned to this idea of the power of the individual.

Interspersed with her own poems and songs, Angelou read a number of works by celebrated poet Paul Laurence Dunbar, including "A Negro Love Song."

"This was a poem written for a man's voice, but, honey, this is a woman's poem," Angelou said, before launching into the sexy poem that the audience cheered.

Later, she described America as the "Yes, I can" country, capable of the greatest liberation and the worst enslavement, and she challenged the youth to change their world.

"I'm sorry our legacy to you wasn't more successful, but

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Mark McCambridge Emerald

David Horowitz spoke Friday night against a broad range of issues including the anti-war movement and slavery reparations.

David Horowitz: 'This campus is a disgrace'

Conservative David Horowitz presented his views and addressed questions on Friday

Jan Montry
City/State Politics Reporter

Nationally renowned author and conservative commentator David Horowitz may be one of the most feared — or hated — men on campuses nationwide, but he still knows how to attract a diverse crowd.

Horowitz, who gained fame at the University in 2001 with his advertising

campaign against slavery reparations, visited the campus Friday night to castigate leftists, liberal bias on college campuses, the anti-war movement and slavery reparations.

About 150 people crammed into Fenton Hall to hear the speech, and more were forced to sit outside after the room was filled. Conservative students, faculty members, community members and members of the campus anti-war movement all attended.

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WEATHER

Today: High 50, Low 20, mostly sunny and cold

Tuesday: High 52, Low 25, light winds, mostly clear

LOOKING AHEAD

Tuesday

UO Republicans and Democrats debate war and affirmative action

Wednesday

The University Assembly hasn't often met to discuss serious topics