

SW Washington Labor Council joins opposition to I-1366

VANCOUVER, Wash. — The Southwest Washington Central Labor Council has added its name to a growing list of organizations opposing Initiative 1366, a statewide ballot measure sponsored by anti-union tax activist Tim Eyman that will be on the ballot in the Nov. 3, 2015 general election.

The Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO, voiced unanimous opposition to the initiative at its convention in July.

I-1366 calls on the Washington Legislature to refer to the ballot a constitutional amendment that would require a two-thirds super-majority vote for lawmakers to pass any tax increases. [To refer a constitutional amendment to the ballot

itself requires a two-thirds vote in both the House and Senate.]

I-1366 gives lawmakers a deadline of April 15, 2016 to act. If they don't, the state sales tax—one of Washington's primary revenue sources for public schools and institutions of higher learning—would immediately be cut from 6.5 percent to 5.5 percent, wiping out \$8 billion in revenue over the next six years, according to the state Office of Financial Management's fiscal impact statement.

"If passed, this measure would allow as few as 17 ideological legislators out of 147 to dictate the agenda for all our state," said Shannon Walker, president of the Southwest Washington Central Labor

Council.

In political races, the Labor Council endorsed Ridgefield resident **Chuck Green** for **Clark County Council, District 2**. The district, created under a new county charter, stretches from Felida through Ridgefield and La Center to the northwest county border. Green, a Democrat, is the project manager for C-TRAN's Bus Rapid Transit Project, and was Clark County's transportation program manager from 1992 to 1998.

At **Vancouver City Council**, the Labor Council endorsed the re-election of **Bart Hansen** to Position 4, and the election of **Ty Stober** for Position 5 and **George Francisco** for Position 6. **Hansen** has served in the post

since January 2010. **Francisco** is an insurance company owner trying to unseat incumbent Bill Turley. Francisco served on the Vancouver City Charter Review Commission in 2014, but otherwise has never run for elective office. **Stober**, a small business owner in the clean energy sector, is running for an open seat. He is a longtime neighborhood and community activist who served on the 2014 City Charter Review Commission.

In **Battle Ground**, the Labor Council is backing **Candy Bonnevill** in her bid to unseat incumbent City Councilor Phil Johnson in Position No. 7. Bonnevill is active in the Clark County Democratic Party.

No union boycott of Oreos ... for now

From Page 1

BCTGM's national contract with Nabisco expires Feb. 29, 2016.

Nabisco had 13 U.S. plants in 1983. Today it has five. One of those is in Portland, at 100 NE Columbia Blvd. The Portland plant has six production lines: Oreo, Ritz, Premium, Chips Ahoy, Wheat Thins and Chicken in a Biskit. The operation employs about 200 members of Bakers Local 364; 35 members of Machinists District W24; Teamsters in the warehouse, and a handful of members of IBEW Local 48 and Operating Engineers Local 701.

ONLINE EXTRA

See Colbert's spoof on Donald Trump's Oreo oath at <http://bit.ly/1JVdfw2>

HOW TO TELL IF YOUR OREO IS UNION-MADE

There's no union label on Nabisco products, but the inkstamp on the end of each package tells you where it was made — if you know what to look for. On most products, right next to the expiration date, there's a two-letter code. Here's your decoder:

AE - Chicago, Illinois
AH - PORTLAND, OREGON
AP - Fair Lawn, New Jersey
AX - Atlanta, Georgia
AZ - Richmond, Virginia
MM - Monterrey, Mexico
MS - Salinas, Mexico



The five U.S. plants are union-represented, but Bakery union officials say the Mexican plants are nonunion. Don't assume your area will have products from the closest Nabisco facility. On the shelves of one Northeast Portland Rite-Aid, we found Ritz,

Chips Ahoy and Wheat Thins from Chicago; Premium Saltines from New Jersey; Chicken in a Biskit crackers from Portland; Fig Newtons and Honey Maid graham crackers from Monterrey; and Oreos ... from Salinas Mex-

A union for massage therapists?

From Page 1

Massage Envy, Elements, and Hand & Stone. Customers there might pay \$50, and only \$16 of that goes to the person providing the service. And to get there, that LMT might have spent 500 hours — and \$5,000 to \$15,000 — in massage school.

Even on the medical side, where an insurer might pay \$45 per 15-minute unit of massage, a clinic might pay the practitioner just 40 percent of that rate.

It's also an overwhelmingly female profession: 82 percent of

Oregon's 6,790 active licensed massage therapists are women. And it's incredibly hard work, taking a toll on bodies: 16 "massage hours" a week is considered full time, and 25 is the outer limit of what's possible.

To raise public awareness about conditions in their profession — and eventually shed light on good and bad players in the industry — Weiser and other LMTs formed the Massage Advocacy Project (MAP).

"We want to open the eyes of the public," Weiser said, "to let them know that of the \$120 you pay at the high-end spa, your

massage therapist is only getting \$25 of it."

So far, the campaign has contacted over 1,300 LMTs, and set up booths at four Portland street fairs. About 100 LMTs have signed on, and 20 to 30 attend monthly organizing meetings. Molenda says the group has already had its first success — getting one small operator to foreswear making use of a non-compete agreement that it made LMTs sign. And for Weiser and other LMTs, the group has also created community in what can be an isolating, mostly solo profession. The groundwork done,

the campaign is preparing to officially launch Oct. 21.

- **Time:** Wednesday, Oct. 21. Registration starts at 2:30 p.m., and the program begins at 3 p.m.
- **Place:** 721 NW 9th Ave, Portland.
- **More info:** www.facebook.com/MassageAdvocacyProject

HELP OUT

Know a licensed massage therapist? Go to a licensed massage therapist? Tell them about the Massage Advocacy Project. And be sure to "Like" it on Facebook: www.facebook.com/MassageAdvocacyProject

Apprenticeship Opening GLAZIERS

The Oregon & SW Washington Glaziers Joint Apprenticeship & Journeyman Training Program will be open to accept applications to create a pool of eligible applicants. Applicants must be at least 18 years old. Must apply in person and furnish a copy of a high school diploma and grade transcript or GED and test scores at time of application.

Applications will be taken
Oct. 19 thru Oct. 30, 2015

Monday thru Friday,
9 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m.

Glaziers Training Center
Mt. Hood Community College
26000 SE Stark St., Gresham, OR

Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.
Veterans GI Benefits may apply

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