



FACE TIME WITH THE GOVERNOR

Before addressing delegates, Oregon Gov. Kate Brown sat down with the Labor Press

You've been governor two and a half years. Which laws have you helped pass that helped working people? The minimum wage increase. Oregon constructed it differently than any other state. From my perspective it reflects the different economic regions of Oregon but it also moves us on the path to ensure that people who are working full time are not living in poverty. I'm also very proud of the paid sick leave bill that passed during the 2015 legislative session.

If you're elected to another term, what kinds of legislation would you help enact to help working people? My focus is around workforce training and job training. ... We want to give our students in high school and middle school access to hands-on learning opportunities, whether it's welding, manufacturing, computer design, 3D printing, graphic design. It truly awakens them to the power of their own potential. And we end up with a really skilled and qualified workforce.

Labor is starting to get involved on the issue of affordable housing. It's a statewide problem. What would you do to make housing more affordable? And do you favor repealing the state law preempting local rent control ordinances? This is a national problem. My fellow governors and I talk about this all the time. In Oregon it's impacting every

community around the state. I know from talking to my folks at Business Oregon [the state economic development agency] that businesses are struggling to move into smaller communities because there is no housing available for their workforce. Since I became governor we've invested close to \$200 million in building affordable units and preventing homelessness and providing rental assistance. Is that enough? Statewide it feels like a tip of the iceberg. But it's certainly significant to the families that have been able to get housing as a result. The other piece is making sure local jurisdictions have the tools that they need to provide more access. The third piece for me, and we're working this right now: Our regional solutions team and our economic development team are working with the private sector to come up with innovative solutions about how we build more housing. So just to give you an example, we partnered in '15 and '16 with a private developer in Pendleton to build housing for the workforce in Pendleton. We're looking for creative solutions about how we can leverage state and federal dollars to build workforce housing. Because that's the key to making sure that our communities are healthy and thriving.

One of the priorities for [Oregon House Speaker] Tina Kotek was lifting the preempting on rent control. Do you have a position on that? I have fought to make sure that our local jurisdictions have the tools that they need. I haven't taken a

position on that particular issue.

One of the perennial issues Oregon faces is insufficient revenue. And we're still the state that has the lowest overall tax burden on corporations. What would be your approach? My first priority is to make sure that we're tightening our belts in state government, that we're spending every single taxpayer dollar effectively and efficiently. We made some steps in that direction this last session.... The second piece for me is figuring out a path forward that doesn't unduly burden working families but ensures that the business community, that corporations throughout the state pay their fair share.

And that would be more than they're paying now? Yes. This has been an ongoing struggle for Oregon for decades. ... I've had a conversation with a number of folks in the business community: They want to do this. The question is how do we do it in a way that ensures that Oregon's economy continues to thrive and that can create good-paying jobs in every corner of the state.

What did you think of the idea of Measure 97, the gross receipts tax like Washington has, as the way to do it? I certainly supported it. The voters disagreed. We used that as the frame for the conversation this last session. I think it's definitely the beginning point of a conversation about how we ensure that large corporations pay their fair share in Oregon.

— Don McIntosh

HONORS

Legislative honors

Legislator of the Year State Rep. Dan Rayfield (D-Corvallis)

Union Defender Award State Sen. Arnie Roblan (D-Coos Bay)

Rookie of the Year State Sen. James Manning (D-Eugene)

Labor 2016 (Oregon AFL-CIO electoral effort)

Most volunteer shifts Oregon AFSCME, ATU Local 757, IATSE Local 28, IBEW Local 48, Laborers Local 737, UFCW Local 555

Leadership in the workplace flier program Shane Nehls from Iron Workers Local 29

Outstanding volunteer Zack Culver of Laborers Local 737

Outstanding participation in political program Rose Etta Venetucci of IATSE Local 28

Union organizing

Largest private sector organizing victory United Food and Commercial Workers Local 555, for organizing 4,500 workers at Safeway/Albertsons

Largest public sector organizing victory AFT-Oregon, for organizing 800 graduate students at Portland State University

Long-term efforts on behalf of Instafab workers Iron Workers District Council of the Pacific Northwest

Including part-time and seasonal workers in organizing efforts at the City of Portland Laborers Local 483

LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD

Every year, the Oregon AFL-CIO advocates in the state legislature on behalf of workers — and finds out which lawmakers are friends where it counts. After the legislative session ends, the labor federation produces a scorecard that rates lawmakers, taking into account not just actual votes on bills, but actions that helped or hindered bills, and even examples where legislators helped workers outside the Capitol to form a union or bargain a fair contract. The scorecard puts lawmakers into four categories: Platinum, Gold, Silver, and Bronze, plus an Honorable Mention category for those who may not have voted consistently with labor but helped deliver on at least one top priority.

OREGON SENATE

Platinum

Michael Dembrow
Arnie Roblan

Gold

Ginny Burdick
Kathleen Taylor
Richard Devlin
Lew Frederick
Sara Gelser
James Manning

Laurie Monnes-Anderson
Elizabeth Steiner-Hayward

Silver

Peter Courtney
Lee Beyer

Bronze

Rod Monroe
Floyd Prozanski
Chuck Riley

Honorable Mention

Brian Boquist
Alan DeBoer
Bill Hansell
Mark Hass
Betsy Johnson
Jackie Winters

OREGON HOUSE

Platinum

Tina Kotek
Jennifer Williamson
Margaret Doherty
Chris Gorsek
Paul Holvey
Nancy Nathanson
Rob Nosse
Dan Rayfield
Barbara Smith Warner

Diego Hernandez
Ann Linger
Sheri Malstrom
Susan McLain
Mark Meek
Carla Piluso
Karin Power
Tawna Sanchez
Janeen Sollman

Silver

Janelle Bynum
Paul Evans
Julie Fahey
David Gornberg
Mitch Greenlick

Gold

Teresa Alonso Leon
Jeff Barker
Phil Barnhart
Ken Helm

Alissa Keny-Guyer
John Lively
Pam Marsh
Jeff Reardon

Bronze

Brian Clem
Brad Witt

Honorable Mention

John Huffman
Bill Kennemer
Caddy McKeown
Andy Olson
Greg Smith