

ENDORSEMENT SEASON

# AFL-CIO issues May primary recommendations

As of March 1, the Oregon AFL-CIO has endorsed the following candidates and issues:

**Congressional**

U.S.Rep. Suzanne Bonamici, CD 1  
Eric Burnette, Candidate for CD 2  
U.S. Rep Earl Blumenauer, CD 3\*

**Statewide**

Gov. Kate Brown  
Val Hoyle for Labor Commissioner

**Ballot Measures**

No on Initiative Petitions 5 & 22 (anti-immigrant measures)

**State Senate**

Athena Goldberg, SD 3  
Senator James Manning, SD 7  
Senator Sara Gelsler, SD 8\*  
Senator Chuck Riley, SD 15  
Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward, SD 17  
Senator Rob Wagner, SD 19

**State House**

Representative Tina Kotek, HD 44  
Representative Jennifer Williamson, HD 36  
Representative Paul Holvey, HD 8\*  
Representative Nancy Nathanson, HD 13  
Representative Dan Rayfield, HD 16  
Representative Julie Fahey, HD 14

Rachel Prusak, Candidate for HD 37  
Representative Andrea Salinas, HD 38  
Representative Mark Meek, HD 40\*  
Representative Karin Power, HD 41\*  
Representative Rob Nosse, HD 42  
Representative Tawna Sanchez, HD 43\*  
Representative Barbara Smith Warner, HD 45  
Representative Alissa Keny-Guyer, HD 46  
Representative Diego Hernandez, HD 47\*  
Representative Chris Gorsek, HD 49  
Representative Carla Piluso, HD 50\*

\*pending receipt of satisfactory candidate questionnaire.

## ...Union members are running for office

From Page 1

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, was once a city councilor in the tiny Eastern Washington town of Dayton. Now she's running for **Salem City Council, Ward 8**, against incumbent Jim Lewis. (mickforsalem.com)

■ **Dean Tucker**, a former timber feller who works as an appraiser in the **Douglas County Assessor's** office, is running for his boss Roger Hartman's job. After Hartman won election to the nonpartisan seat in 2014, Tucker and other employees joined **Oregon AFSCME**. Hartman later barred the wearing of union T-shirts in their Roseburg offices, among many other controversies. (tuckerforassessor.com)

Of course, union members don't have to go to candidate school to run for office. In **Yamhill County**, two other Oregon union members are making first-time runs for office:

- **Josh Rojas** serves young people as a care coordinator for Yamhill County Health and Human Services. He's also president of **AFSCME Local 1422**, and one of three candidates challenging incumbent Stan Primozich for **Yamhill County Commission, Position 1**. (facebook.com/RojasForYCC)
- **Chelsey Williams** is a shop steward in **American Federation of Teachers Local 6069**, which represents graduate student faculty at Oregon State University.

She's one of two candidates challenging incumbent Mary Starrett for **Yamhill County Commission, Position 3**. (chelseyforcommish.com)

**INTERESTED IN RUNNING?**

**Oregon:** Oregon Labor Candidates School candidate training events take place March 20 in Hermiston and April 14 in Eugene. A multi-session class Portland starts October. Find out more at [oregonlaborcandidateschool.org](http://oregonlaborcandidateschool.org)

**Washington:** The next candidate training for Washington union members will take place March 28-30 in Yakima. For details, see <http://bit.ly/2I9eOrt>.

## Who's on our side?

By Tom Chamberlain Oregon AFL-CIO President



### A new era in American unionism

Between 1945 to 1965, America workers' wages doubled, and between 1965 and 1985, wages almost doubled again. But since 1985, wages have been stagnant. Today, 20 percent of the wealthiest Americans own 86 percent of American wealth: the highest in history. It should not be a surprise to anyone that the rise and decline in wages tracks with the rise and decline of worker power through union membership. And that is precisely why our workers' movement is a target.

On Feb. 26, the U.S. Supreme Court heard arguments in *Janus v AFSCME*. A pro Janus decision would eliminate agency fees for nonunion members. The goal of the deep-pocketed backers of *Janus* is to bankrupt unions and eliminate our political power, resulting in a political and legislative agenda that favors corporations, Wall Street, and the wealthy. Their argument is that agency fees for non-members who enjoy all the benefits of a union contract is an unconstitutional act of compelled speech.

The rise of the worker power in the United States was a time of great activism. Strikes were more common and workers who lived through the Great Depression knew what this country was like before the rise of unions: low wages, no pensions, no benefits, and little or no job safety protections. The connection between individual members ran deep with their unions. Prior to payroll deductions, dues were collected through union stewards on a one-on-one basis. Each month, a member would pay their dues and have a one-on-one conversation. That conversation could have been about sports, family, politics and sometimes a union issue. The connection that was forged resulted in a sense of union ownership with members. Today's unions have reestablished those one-on-one conversations between members and union representatives.

What might a post-Janus world look like? Many believe that the West Virginia teachers' strike foreshadows a new era in American unionism. As workers become more involved in their unions through increased member-to-member communication, they move toward activism and solidarity. States that have balanced budgets on the backs of public employees are vulnerable to backlash, like we just witnessed in West Virginia. Workers who have become frustrated with a system that victimizes them and their families will look for a vehicle to strike back. That vehicle has and always will be the American union movement.

Our workers' movement was designed to be a radical counter to capitalism. Today's economic division between workers and the wealthiest Americans looks more like the 1890s and the early days of the 1900s than anytime in modern history. It was a time of great labor unrest: In the 1890s there were over 20 strikes, and each had a significant impact on our history. Like many workers today, they scratched out a living working several jobs to survive while poverty and homelessness ran rampant. The robber barons of the 1890s, like today, believed that workers were a commodity to be used and discarded.

Workers will only tolerate such abuse for so long before they fight back for the well-being of their families. Pay attention to the workers at Vigor Shipyards who are still fighting for respect on the job and a 40-hour workweek. A pro-Janus decision by the Supreme Court will eventually result in a more militant form of unionism where workers choose to fight back against a system that is rigged for the rich. Our success as we move forward is to ignore those things that separate workers — private versus public, manufacturing versus the building trades — and to support each other on the picket line and in our capitals. We must remember that solidarity equals success.

The Oregon AFL-CIO is a 138,000-member-strong federation of labor unions.

## TOGETHER WE ARE STRONGER

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WHAT WOULD YOU RATHER EARN?

Getting started is easy! Contact us directly at **1-877-769-4766**, we are happy to help.

### APY Savings Rate Comparisons

Account Type	Ironworkers FCU	Bank of America	Chase	Wells Fargo	US Bank
<b>ACCOUNT MINIMUM</b>	<b>\$100</b>	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
<b>Share</b>	<b>.10% APY*</b>	.03% APY	.01% APY	.01% APY	.01% APY
<b>Money Market/ Special Club</b>	<b>0.50%</b>	.03%	.03%	.03%	.05%
<b>CDs/Share Certificates</b>					
6mo	.40%	.02%	.01%	.01%	.05%
12mo	.85%	.05%	.01%	.05%	.10%
24mo	<b>1.25%</b>	.10%	.05%	.15%	.20%
36mo	<b>1.25%</b>	.12%	.05%	.20%	.35%
48mo	<b>2.00%</b>	.15%	.10%	.25%	.50%

Proudly Serving Ironworker members and their families in Affiliated Local Unions 14, 29, 86, 506, 516 and 751



**PORTLAND BRANCH**  
11620 NE Ainsworth Circle, #400  
Portland, OR 97220  
Phone: (503) 774-3848

**SEATTLE BRANCH**  
4550 S 134TH Place, Suite 103  
Tukwila, WA 98168  
Phone: (206) 835-0150

**SPOKANE BRANCH**  
16610 E Euclid  
Spokane, WA 99216  
Phone: (509) 326-2485



\*Annual Percentage Yield. Rates as of 3.7.17. Pacific NW Ironworkers FCU only \$100 minimum deposit to earn listed APY. Bank minimum of \$10,000 deposit to earn the listed APY.