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# the clackamas print

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Clackamas Community College, Oregon City, OR

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## Shoshie Tots split sides with laughter



Brian Steele Clackamas Print

Shoshie Tots happily create new rhymes using current events to the tune of old nursery rhymes on the spot during rehearsal for their one act plays on Nov. 30 in the student center. See story on page 5.

## Measures 66 and 67 necessary for community college funding

**Measure 66**  
**YES!**  
Measure 66 will mark a pivotal point in the state's future. It is important that this measure passes because it will raise \$472 million to help maintain state funding levels for services such as education, corrections and healthcare. We at Clackamas are directly affected by the success of this bill. Combined with Measure 67, Oregon's community colleges stand to either keep or lose \$24 million that has already been promised to them by the state legislature.  
The failure to pass this bill would mean Clackamas Community College would be forced to make another round of budget cuts. The college has already lost a department, 20 full-time staff and faculty members as well as uncounted part-time employees in the last school year. Another round of cuts would be devastating. Budget cuts would ultimately mean fewer classes, meaning not only would students have something to dread even more, but it may mean that students would have to go to school longer because they have to wait for the classes they need.  
The extra revenue would be acquired by raising the state income tax by 1.8 percent for those who make more than \$125,000 if filing alone or \$250,000 if filing jointly. It will raise income tax levels by 2 percent for individuals making over \$250,000 and joint filers making over \$500,000. A nice feature of the bill is that it only raises taxes for money earned at these levels; this means, if an individual makes \$150,000 only the additional \$25,000 will be hit by the additional tax hikes.  
This is a good way to raise taxes without completely obliterating the state's already suffering working class. Although it does raise taxes on corporations, it raises taxes for those who can afford it in order to help those who can't.  
This measure will help many students here at Clackamas that aren't making six digit incomes. This ballot measure will help to raise money to keep them in college without making them pay even more for what is already an expensive learning experience.

On January 26, Oregonians will be voting on two ballot measures that will dramatically impact state funded agencies and programs, including Clackamas Community College. Ballot measures 66 and 67 stand to shape the future, or lack thereof, for many Oregonians.  
The editorial staff at *The Print* feel these measures are important and have drafted our endorsements for the upcoming referendum.

**Measure 67**  
**YES!**

Passing this measure is imperative to filling the budget gaps in state programs caused by the economic recession. Measure 67 increases the minimum corporate tax in Oregon and also raises profit taxes on corporations making over \$500,000 a year. The approximately \$261 million that will be raised by the tax will prevent major budget shortfalls in community colleges and other services statewide. These are funds that have already been promised to community colleges by the state legislature.  
If measure 67 doesn't pass, Clackamas will have many tough decisions to make. Since, most of the expenses of the college are in the form of salaries and wages, the only way to make cuts is to cut staff and faculty at Clackamas. The last time this happened a whole program -drafting- at CCC was lost. Many students who were a part of that program were left high-and-dry. If more budget cuts come, more classes and possibly whole departments could be lost. Registration was already a mess this year, with classes filling quickly and many students finding themselves unable to take the classes they need.  
The tax is progressive, meaning that corporations that make a higher profit will pay a slightly larger portion of their profit in income taxes. This means that lower income corporations like small businesses will be less affected by the tax.  
The corporate minimum tax hasn't changed since 1931. It seems about time to adapt it to modern times. Right now Oregon can't afford to cut into education anymore, and this measure seems like an obvious method of preventing those cuts. Too many students are suffering as it is.  
Fortunately, the tax should have a relatively minimal effect on employment. It seems a simple way for corporations in Oregon to assist the very people they are employing and it does so without going to extreme measures.  
Measure 67 will help keep students and employees at community colleges across the state. With many people struggling to pay for classes, this measure should make a difference. Tuition has already increased significantly since last fall, and passing this measure will do much to keep it from increasing so much again.