

Packwood bill would alter primary elections

Calling the present system of presidential primaries "officially-sanctioned chaos," Sen. Bob Packwood, R-Ore., last week introduced legislation to set up a system of regional presidential primaries.

Packwood, who has introduced a regional primaries bill in every Congress since 1972, will try again. "I continue to wage this battle in an effort to bring some semblance of logic to the manner in which we

choose our presidential candidates," he said.

According to the Packwood primary scheme, the country would be divided into five regions. States within the regions would choose whether or not to hold primaries, but once decided would hold their primaries on the same date as other states in the region.

According to the scheme, Oregon would be bunched with Washington, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Utah,

California, Arizona, New Mexico, Alaska, Hawaii and Guam.

The first primary would be held on the second Tuesday of March, and each succeeding primary on the second Tuesday in each of the next four months. A lottery would be conducted by the Federal Election Commission 70 days before the first primary to determine which region would be first.

Lotteries would then be held 70 days prior to each

succeeding primary to determine the sequence of the other primaries.

"Last year, the presidential nomination process established new records for money, time and energy expended by candidates for coverage and analysis by the media, and for greater confusion and dissatisfaction on the part of voters across the nation," Packwood said.

"There is an emerging consensus that the process must be made easier for both

candidates and voters," he added.

Packwood said that in addition to placing fewer economic and scheduling demands on presidential candidates, the regional primary system would eliminate the disproportionate emphasis placed on the early primaries and would encourage voters to participate in primary elections.

"With regional primaries,

candidates will no longer have to hop-sotch the country, vying for votes on the West Coast, and then the East, traveling east and then south," Packwood said.

"Only with a rational approach like regional primaries can we avoid what Jules Witcover called in 'Marathon,' his well-respected chronicle of the 1976 presidential campaign, 'masochism on a national scale.'"

Residents may appeal property valuations

Local property owners who feel their property has been overvalued have the right to appeal.

There are several steps in the appeal process, according to Robyn Godwin, director of the Oregon Department of Revenue. The first step is an appeal to the county board of equalization.

If that move proves unsuccessful, it may be followed by appeals to the revenue department and then to the Oregon Tax Court and

Oregon Supreme Court. In certain cases, the owner may appeal to the Small Claims Division of the Oregon Tax Court instead of the revenue department.

In any appeal, Godwin said, the key issue is the market value of the property. Many people mistakenly believe they can appeal the amount of tax levied on their property.

"This misconception is a major problem for the county boards of equalization," Godwin said. "The boards only consider questions of property value. They don't consider the amount of tax levied. That's not their job."

The burden of proof is on the owner, who must convince the board the assessor has overestimated the property's value. Private appraisal reports or studies of comparable properties may be used to show the property has been overvalued, according to Godwin.

Boards of equalization began hearing appeals on non-residential properties this Monday, May 11. These include apartment, industrial, commercial and farm properties. Value change notices are sent to owners in the spring. The filing deadline for appeals is this Monday, May 18.

Notices for "homesteads," owner-occupied principal residences that have qualified for state tax relief, are sent in the fall. Homestead owners can appeal to the fall board of equalization.

Appeal forms are available from Clackamas County Clerk George Poppen or County Assessor George Malin.

Late filers to have wait

Sandy-area residents who waited until April to file their federal income tax returns can expect up to a 10-week wait for their refund check, according to the Internal Revenue Service.

Taxpayers who filed complete and accurate returns early in the year should have received their refunds in a shorter period of time. However, those filing after April 1 will be more likely to experience delays because of the large number of late filers.

The most-frequently asked telephone question now for the IRS is the refund inquiry.

Specialized personnel are trained to handle these calls, using computer terminals that link up with the IRS Service Center in Ogden, Utah. However, they must allow 10 weeks processing time before they can check on the status of a refund. Thus, IRS can not respond to refund queries from April 15 filers until the first of July.

Many refund questions received by IRS are misdirected, such as inquiries about the state of Oregon's refund program for renters, homeowners and income tax payers. These questions should be go to the Oregon Department of Revenue.

Entertainers sought for State Fair

Amateur entertainers of all ages are needed to perform free at the 1981 Oregon State Fair Aug. 28 to Sept. 7.

Applications are now available at the office of the Oregon State Fair in the Jackson Long Building, 2330 17th St. N.E. in Salem.

The fair is looking for people of all types and talents, such as musicians, singers, pantomime artists, puppeteers and magicians.

Times and places for auditions will be scheduled at a later date. Those interested should pick up, write or phone for an application as soon as possible. A photograph is requested with each application and musical groups should send a cassette tape with at least two of the songs they plan to perform at the fair.

Although all ages are welcome, persons under 21 years of age must have the signature of a parent or guardian to perform. Applicants may also list preference for dates and times of performance, as well as any special stage requirements.



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HOME INSULATION SUNDAY 3:00 PM 5:00 PM 7:00 PM ROOM B		LAWN & SOD INSTALLATION SAT. 3:00 PM 8:00 PM ROOM D SUN. 1:00 PM 3:00 PM ROOM F		GLIDDEN HOME DECORATING SAT. 1:00 PM 4:00 PM 7:00 PM ROOM F SUN. 2:00 PM ROOM F		OSTER KITCHEN TECHNIQUES FRI. 8:00 PM ROOM D SAT. 2:00 PM 5:00 PM 8:00 PM ROOM D SUN. 3:00 PM ROOM D		PORTLAND POLICE DEPT. HOME SECURITY FRI. 8:00 PM ROOM C SAT. 1:00 PM 3:00 PM 5:00 PM ROOM C SUN. 1:00 PM ROOM C	
BASIC PLUMBING FRI. 6:00 PM ROOM D SAT. 1:30 PM 4:30 PM ROOM E SUN. 2:00 PM ROOM B		RAY MCNEILAN PLANT CARE County Extension Agent FRI. 7:00 PM ROOM A SAT. 2:00 PM 4:00 PM ROOM A SUN. 1:00 PM ROOM D		WALLPAPER APPLICATION FRI. 8:00 PM ROOM E SAT. 2:00 PM 3:00 PM ROOM F SUN. 2:00 PM 4:00 PM ROOM E		KITCHEN COUNTERTOPS SAT. 2:30 PM 5:30 PM ROOM F SUN. 3:00 PM ROOM C		CHAINSAW MAINTENANCE AND SAFETY FRI. 1:00 PM ROOM E SAT. 8:00 PM ROOM F SUN. 1:00 PM 3:00 PM ROOM B	
GUTTER INSTALLATION FRI. 7:00 PM ROOM C SAT. 2:00 PM 7:00 PM ROOM C SUN. 4:00 PM ROOM C		INSECT & WEED CONTROL - ORTHO FRI. 6:00 PM ROOM B SAT. 2:00 PM ROOM B		INSTALLING PANELING FRI. 9:00 PM ROOM A SAT. 3:00 PM 6:00 PM ROOM E SUN. 1:00 PM 3:00 PM ROOM E		LUHR-JENSEN MEAT SMOKERS SATURDAY 3:00 PM 6:00 PM ROOM F		WOOD STOVE INSTALLATION SATURDAY 2:30 PM 7:30 PM ROOM C	
BASIC ELECTRICAL REPAIRS SAT. 1:00 PM 4:00 PM 7:00 PM ROOM E SUN. 4:00 PM ROOM B		DRIED FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS FRI. 8:00 PM ROOM C SAT. 2:00 PM 5:00 PM ROOM E SUN. 4:00 PM ROOM F		ARMSTRONG CEILING INSTALLATION FRI. 8:00 PM ROOM F SAT. 4:00 PM 6:00 PM ROOM C SUN. 5:00 PM ROOM C		ENERGY SAVING CENTER APPLYING FOR LOANS FRIDAY 8:00 PM ROOM B		DEWALT RADIAL ARM SAW SAT. 12 NOON ROOM A SUN. 4:00 PM ROOM A	

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