

# Toxicity bill changes burden of proof to EPA

A bill transferring the responsibility of determining the toxicity of agricultural chemicals and pesticides on child berry pickers from the berry

growers to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) received the support of U.S. Representative Denny Smith, R-Ore. "I've cosponsored this bill

in the hopes that it will remove yet another federally regulated roadblock set before the berry growers of Oregon," the second district

congressman said, "by establishing a procedure allowing the berry growers to employ children and at the same time assuring the specific safeguards

necessary to their health and well-being." "At present," Smith said, "the berry growers, themselves, are faced with

the impossible task of proving that the agricultural chemical safety standards outlined by the Department of Labor are met before being allowed to employ

children to pick berries. "This bill would require EPA, not the berry growers, to bear the time and expense of proving that an agricultural chemical poses

a significant adverse effect on the health or well-being of these children. "It's a matter of common sense," Smith said. "I haven't seen growers asking the Department of Labor to raise berries—why force growers to be in the business of proving the toxicity of agricultural chemicals?"

He said, "When the EPA studies are completed and approved, and the other requirements of the child labor sections of the Fair Labor Standards Act met, I see no reason why both the berry growers and the 10 and 11 year old kids in Oregon should not be allowed to make some money."

## In letter to administration

# Weaver calls for an end to high interest rate policy

The two senior members of Oregon's House delegation, Congressmen Jim Weaver and Les AuCoin, have sent a letter to Oregon Governor Vic Attyeh urging him to "immediately contact the President" and urge an end to the Administration's high interest rate policies.

"The recent announcement of the state unemployment figure of 10 percent—highest in the nation—coupled with the recent announcement by Oregon economists that the unemployment rate could reach 12.5 percent statewide by December of this year,

means immediate action must be taken against the high interest rate policy of the Reagan Administration," the Weaver-AuCoin letter said. "Commerce Department figures indicate that housing starts have reached a new low, with new construction of

single family houses hitting its lowest point since the government began keeping track more than two decades ago. By all accounts, record high interest rates were to blame. Oregon's timber-based economy faces disaster if this policy is not changed swiftly."

"Therefore, we urge you to contact the President immediately to describe Oregon's situation and urge him to take swift action with regard to high interest rates. We, as Members of Congress, have already on

several occasions, urged this action on the Administration. While we believe the situation is far too serious for politics to be involved, you and the President are of the same party and you may reach his ear with Oregon's

story. "I don't know how much longer we can afford to have a Governor who takes a do-nothing approach to Oregon's problems," Weaver said.

# Workshop set on development

Clackamas County Economic Development from a Local Perspective" will be the subject of an intensive two-day workshop at Clackamas Community College Oct. 15 and 16.

Developed by the National Economic Development and Law Center in Berkeley, the workshop is aimed at helping residents, business people, property owners, and local governments to understand economic development and to realize local benefits

from economic opportunities. Five workshop sessions will cover the skills needed to get involved in local economic development. They are understanding local planning, project development, utilizing development opportunities for local benefit, creating organizations to serve local interests, and applying these skills to specific local issues.

Panelists will include representatives from Metropolitan Service District, Port of Portland, Clackamas County, Oregon State University extension service, and the National Economic Development and Law Center.

p.m. on Friday. Registration is open to anyone, but is limited to the first 50 registrants. The fee is \$12, which covers materials, coffee and two catered lunches.

For registration and information call David Dickson, 657-8400, ext. 414.

The workshop begins at 9 a.m. each day and concludes at 5 p.m. on Thursday and 4

## Timberline art tour is Oct 14

The Art Advisory Board of Clackamas Community College is sponsoring a guided tour of Timberline Lodge Oct. 14.

Representatives of The Friends of Timberline Lodge, an association of craftsmen and artists dedicated to the preservation and restoration of the lodge, will lead participants on a personalized tour of the lodge, shedding some interesting insights on the history and craftsmanship of the famous building's architecture and wood sculptures.

This will be an opportunity to see the Mountain High III art and crafts show, a collection of wood artworks by 20 Oregon artists whose themes relate to the lodge and its forest setting.

Artists include Phyllis Yes, professor of art at Lewis and Clark College, and Ray Neuser, supervisor of woodworking projects at Timberline Lodge.

The tour includes a no-host lunch at the lodge, and if time allows, stops at craft shops in Sandy. For more information, call 657-8400, ext. 208.

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