

EUGENE WEEKLY'S ELE

Ballots are being mailed between Oct. 19 and Oct. 25. The last day to register to vote in Oregon was Oct. 18. Don't let a loser win. Vote! //

U.S. President

HILLARY CLINTON (D) vs. Donald Trump (R), Gary Johnson (L), Jill Stein (G)

We endorsed Bernie Sanders in the primary. Now we're taking his advice and voting for Hillary Clinton, not sitting at home pouting and planning not to vote. We interviewed both Stein and Johnson, and while we found them interesting, Stein steers away from candid, off-message responses and Johnson chokes under pressure. Neither have the leadership skills needed for the presidency. Sanders holds up that Democratic platform full of his issues, telling us that he, Elizabeth Warren, Jeff Merkley and other progressives will stake out a place in her administration. He also warns that Donald Trump cannot be president of our country. We believe in Bernie, and that's why we're voting for Hillary.



U.S. Senate

RON WYDEN (D) vs. Mark Callahan (R), Eric Navickas (G), Shanti Lewallen (WF), Steven Reynolds (I)

If we are fortunate enough to win a Democratic majority in the U.S. Senate on Nov. 8, Oregon's senior senator will be a powerful player, especially on issues of security. Sure to win again, Wyden has been busy raising money for closer races. He has no real competition and gets our vote one more time.

U.S. House

PETER DEFazio (D) vs. Art Robinson (R), Mike Beilstein (G)

Art Robinson said at a recent Eugene City Club debate that he intends to run again and again against Peter DeFazio. Maybe it's just a publicity stunt to ensure Orego-

nians keep sending him their pee? We disagree with DeFazio sometimes, but when it comes down to it, we're with Pete.

Oregon Governor

KATE BROWN (D) vs. Bud Pierce (R), James Foster (L), Cliff Thomason (I), Aaron Donald Auer (C)

We were already for Kate Brown before the gubernatorial debates, but our position was strengthened further when Brown bravely volunteered that she had been a victim of domestic violence and opponent Bud Pierce said educated, well-off women are "not susceptible" to domestic violence. Pierce later apologized, but what a stance for a medical doctor! If he hadn't figured out something as basic as that before his campaign, we have little hope for progressive stances on the environment or poverty. Brown has faltered here and there — we'd like to see her stronger on the environment herself — but overall, she's a strong leader for Oregon and should be elected.



Oregon Secretary of State

BRAD AVAKIAN (D) vs. Dennis Richardson (R), Paul Damian Wells (I), Alan Zundel (G)

Remember that the Oregon secretary of state is on the State Land Board, decider of the fate of the Elliott State Forest, for instance. The secretary of state is next in line to the governor and in charge of elections. NARAL, Planned Parenthood and the Oregon Education Association have all endorsed Avakian, along with the Sierra Club and other environmental groups. Some critics say Avakian wants to do too much, like encouraging civics classes in Oregon schools, hold-



ing a youth vote. Really? Isn't that what a secretary of state with Oregon values should do? His opponent, Dennis Richardson, is an extreme conservative not good on same-sex marriage, abortion rights, climate change and the list goes on. This is an extremely important contest with stark differences for the future of this state.

Oregon State Treasurer

TOBIAS READ vs. Jeff Gudman (R), Chris Henry (G), Chris Telfer (I)

Tobias Read, a Democrat currently in the Oregon House, is in the race for state treasurer. He's endorsed by the current treasurer, Ted Wheeler (D), who is leaving due to term limits. As the state's chief financial officer, official banker and elected official responsible for managing the state's money, state treasurer is a key seat. Also the state treasurer serves on the State Land Board, making decisions such as how to deal with the Elliott State Forest. We'd like to see a Democrat in that seat who prefers the Elliott's coastal old growth stays standing.

Oregon Attorney General

ELLEN ROSENBLUM (D) vs. Daniel Zene Crowe (R)

As journalists who hold government transparency and public records access sacred, we are for Ellen Rosenblum, who has picked up the torch on that issue, which is in need of reform in this state. She isn't afraid to build bridges, teaming up with former opponent for AG seat Dwight Holton to work on the opioid epidemic, and she's worked on improving privacy laws so victims of campus sexual assault are better protected. Her opponent Crowe tells us he's voting for Trump and is a bit of a one-trick-pony with his focus on the "rule of law" in his campaign. Rosenblum has the track record that shows she can get work done in the law and the Legislature.

Oregon State Senate

District 5 **ARNIE ROBLAN** (D) vs. Dick Anderson (R, I), Dan Souza (L)

Oregon State House

District 7 Cedric Hayden (R), **VINCENT PORTULANO** (D), **FERGUS MCLEAN** (G,I)

Neither Vincent Portulano (D) nor Fergus Mclean

STATE BALLOT MEASURES

MEASURE 94 would repeal the mandatory judicial retirement age, which is currently 75 years old. **YES.**

Most judges are eager to retire long before 75, and the few who want to continue should have the option. Although they are not Oregon judges, we think of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Judge Harry Pregerson of the 9th Circuit, ruling brilliantly long past 75.

MEASURE 95 would allow public state universities to invest in equities. **YES.**

We asked a local investment adviser and a local economist we respect to give us their views on 95. Both said it is a conservative proposal, some risk involved, but they generally support it for the benefits it offers. It applies to all Oregon public state universities, not only the University of Oregon. We do wonder why this was referred to the voters who have so little understanding of the issues.

MEASURE 96 would devote 1.5 percent of state lottery net proceeds toward veterans' services. **NO.**

As much as we want to see veterans' services funded, we are skeptical of this measure. It draws from the same funding source (lottery dollars) as the Outdoor School measure. Rather than pull more from the lottery pot, and lock this funding into the Oregon Constitution, we would like to see the Oregon Legislature allocate money from the general fund for veterans' services.

MEASURE 97 would raise corporate taxes on businesses with annual sales that exceed \$25 million. **YES.**

We've said it again and again in our education coverage, and we'll repeat it one more time: Oregon school funding is in crisis mode. Talk to anyone immersed in Oregon's schools, from teachers and superintendents to parents and school board members, and you'll quickly realize just how dire the situation is. Oregon's Quality Education Commission states clearly that Oregon is underfunding its schools by \$1 billion a year, resulting in large class sizes, overworked teachers and major cuts to physical education, arts classes and supporting staff.

Oregon kids deserve better, and their education matters. With that in mind, we emphatically recommend a "yes" vote on Measure 97.

The rhetoric surrounding this campaign swirls around arguments of sales taxes and impacts to Oregon's business community. Measure 97 would level a 2.5 percent tax on C corporations with Oregon sales of more than \$25 million. It would generate \$3 billion a year, with the measure directing funds toward education, health care and senior services.

National corporations have poured money into the "no" campaign, with big donations from the likes of Kroger, Gap and Comcast. The nonpartisan Oregon Legislative Revenue Office predicted a financial impact to consumers, saying that businesses would "pass on" the cost of the tax to their customers.

But if that were entirely true, and the measure effectively operated like a sales tax, why would businesses oppose it at all? Businesses in Oregon have lobbied for a sales tax for years.

No other solution has emerged to tackle Oregon's education funding crisis. Since Measure 5 gutted educa-