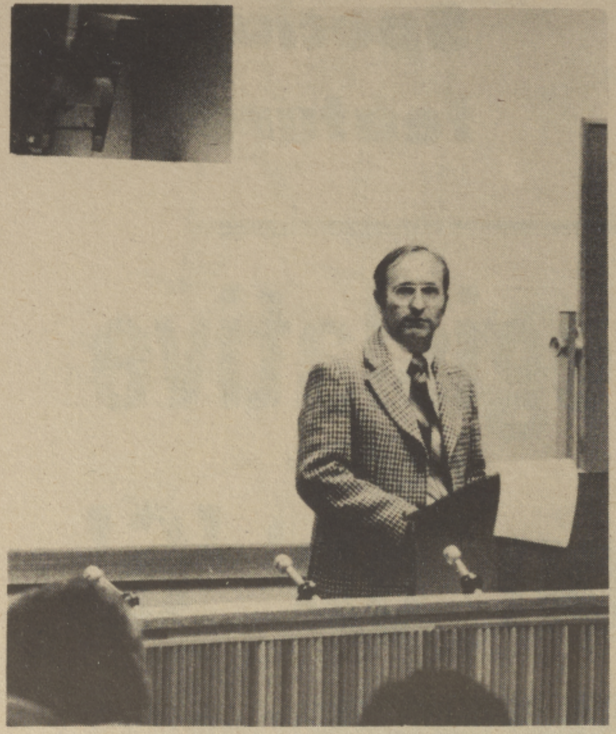


Richard Munn (above) legislative revenue officer, tells where money comes from.

Dan Simmons, (below) legislative fiscal analyst, tells where money goes.

The meaning of Measure 6

Verne Duncan, Supt. of Public Instruction, checks impact

Legislators and others listen intently.

Measure 6 unfairness rivaled by complexity

If complexity could be measured in inches, Measure 6 is nearly an inch. That's how thick was the accumulation of information handouts for the legislative information session held at the Capitol August 19.

Included were narratives, charts, graphs, tables and massive computer printouts of the effects the property tax limitation proposal would have on taxing districts throughout the state.

Following opening remarks by legislative leaders, sessions on revenue, expenditure and legal aspects of Measure 6 presented detailed information on what is known about its possible effects.

And it was apparent from the discussions that what is not known and what is yet to be determined may overshadow what is. For example, how to distribute revenue from the 1½ percent or $15 per $1,000 true cash value provided for in Measure 6 is unclear.

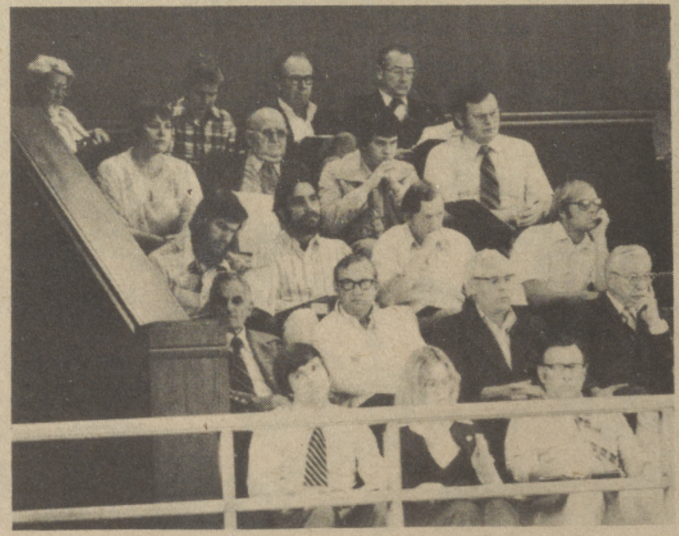
Because of the overlapping local government service districts such as counties, cities, school districts, education service districts, fire districts, water districts, community colleges, sewer districts, etc., etc., allocation of the available resources would surely be a much-disputed decision.

Additional questions over such things as bonding capacity, serial levies, local control and a myriad of other legal and practical considerations ensure that if Measure 6 passes, the Oregon Legislature will spend a great amount of time searching for answers and trying to come up with ways of dealing with the aftermath.

As the OSEA News was going to press, legislative leaders were considering a host of alternative plans, beginning with the Straub homestead exemption, but also including proposals submitted by his opponent in the gubernatorial election, Vic Atiyeh, Sen. Vern Cook, Rep. Grattan Kerans and Sen. Jack Ripper.

Whatever plan is adopted by the Legislature and submitted as an alternative to Measure 6, and whether or not it is favored by a majority of the voters, passage of a tax relief measure will have substantial impact on Oregon government at all levels.

Earl Beier, Dist. 10 Director; Jan Beals, Dist. 8 Director; and President Jon Lucke.



OSEA officials (right) Jan Beals, Bill Thompson, Russ Heinemann, Jon Lucke, Joe Roche and Earl Beier in senate gallery.

Dan Simmons, legislative fiscal analyst, explains how the pie is divided

Update from California

SACRAMENTO -- Any kind of money bill, including cost of living raises for retired state employes, is facing rough sledding in the California Legislature in the wake of Prop. 13, reports Keith Hearn, a member of the California State Employes Association (CSEA) staff.

A lot of what might be said is still fluid, Hearn said, because the fulltime legislature is in session until Aug. 31. However, the shape of things to come is quite evident.

While the legislature budgeted a two and one-half percent pay increase, Gov. Jerry Brown, taking his cue from Prop. 13, vetoed the measure. As a result, not only state employes, but local government employes whose employers take state "bail-out" money also will be getting no raise. The legislative measure which donated the state's nearly $6 billion surplus to the local governments said their employes could receive a pay increase no greater than what state employes were getting. A couple of counties have said if that's the case, they won't take the state money; other jurisdictions are challenging the measure in the courts.

The day after the passage of Prop. 13, (June 7) Gov. Brown ordered a statewide hiring freeze except for 24-hour care facilities. Now, nearly two months later, CSEA field staff is not aware of too many speed-ups as a result of people leaving and not being replaced. That is expected to change as time passes, says Hearn. Problems are expected, especially in the area of clerical support. One manager put out a memo to his professional staff, for example, saying that they would be expected to do some out-of-class work such as typing their own letters. In another case also involving clerical employes, 200 temporary workers who were told before the proposition's passage that they would be moved into permanent employment the first of June, were told after the election that that would not happen. CSEA then reminded the governor that he said any promises made prior to June should be kept.

It is estimated, however, that the state government's usual five percent turnover will be less than in the past. A lot of state employes go to local governments, when they change jobs, Hearn said. Now there is no place for them to go with the job market so uncertain, he said.

Prop. 13 has had a significant effect on CSEA's legislative program, Hearn said. A bill for a state-paid dental plan, a cost of living raise for retired employes; bar fee payment for state government attorneys and several other improvements in the area of retirement fell by the way side, he said.

"The whole Prop. 13 issue has the media aggressively going after any stories that at all smack of waste and spending at the state level," Hearn said. "One page one story said that state employes should 'return all the pens and pencils they have been carting home,'" he noted. "There is an overall black image of state employes who are trying to cope like anyone else. TV crews are filming the number of state car license plates on the highway and wondering out loud 'Where are all these people going?' without ever answering the question," Hearn said. "It's escalating from all quarters. It's going to be tough times for state employes in California."

While the classified state employe is expected to do the same amount of work with less staff and no pay raise, pay for state legislators will go from $23,232 a year to $25,555. Truth to tell, the solons did try to stop the pay raise but discovered a constitutional provision which said a pay raise once approved can't be rescinded.

Public scrutiny has increased to such an extent that it emphasizes even more the idea that state employes are second class citizens, Hearn said.