

OPEU closely tracks nearly 20 proposals

The following is a list of bills (other than those that have been expanded upon on this page and page 4) that are being followed by OPEU lobbyists and members:

Retiree Insurance

SB 150: Provides for public employes paying 50 percent of the cost of health insurance contracted by PERS for retired members. From our viewpoint, there is considerable question whether a health insurance carrier would provide significant benefits for this "high risk" group at a reasonable premium rate. Currently before the Senate Insurance, Banking and Retirement Committee.

SB 182: Sponsored by the Executive Department, SEBB and BUBB would be prevented from contracting for insurance for retired PERS members. Members of the Senate Insurance, Banking and Retirement Committee all reflected displeasure with this legislation and the motivation behind it.

HB 3010: Would require local governments and school districts providing health insurance coverage to employes to make that coverage available to retirees and their families. Allows the local jurisdiction to pay none, part or all of the retirees' coverage. Currently before the House Intergovernmental Affairs Committee.

PERS

SB 179: Addresses the issue of the public employer paying employe contributions to the PERS fund. Passed by the 1979 Legislature, this provision would, without action, expire on June 30, 1981. SB 179 would continue the present practice by permanently incorporating this concept. Currently before the Senate Insurance, Banking and Retirement Committee.

HB 2878: Permits Oregon Investment Council to use PERS funds to provide financing to employes and annuitants for home purchases. Currently before the House Urban and Urban Development Committee.

Collective Bargaining

HB 2141: Allows either party in public employe labor disputes to eliminate factfinding and to initiate binding arbitration. The House Labor Committee has recommended that this bill not be passed when it comes up for a vote before the full House.

HB 2466: Expands factfinding to include permissive items in collective bargaining. Allows bargaining on permissive bargaining items. Prohibits public employes from participating in strikes over permissive bargaining items. Currently before the House Labor Committee.

HB 2578: Protects freedom of public employes to bargain collectively. Limits power of Employe Relations Board over public employe representation matters. Removes provisions relating to fair-share agreements. Removes requirement that public employes make payroll deduction for and make payments to uncertified labor organizations. Currently before the House Labor Committee.

HB 2599: Removes provision making public employes' refusal to cross a picketline an illegal strike. Currently before the House Labor Committee.

Personnel

HB 2310: Requires director of the Executive Department to prescribe pay periods and dates of pay for all state officers and employes. Revises centralized payroll procedures. Currently before the House State and Federal Affairs Committee.

HB 2752: Authorizes executive sessions for performance evaluation of public employes unless person being evaluated requests open hearing. Currently before the House Intergovernmental Relations Committee.

HJR 38: Creates interim study of state classification system. This system has not had a thorough review in 40 years. Currently before the House Legislative Rules and Operations Committee.

Investments

HB 2618: Declares policy of opposing racially discriminatory state investment. Encourages consideration of social effects of state investment. Establishes benefit to state economy as objective of investment. Prohibits investment of state funds in firms required by foreign law to discriminate on basis of race, color or national origin. Restricts these limits to firms with substantial operation in such foreign countries. Requires prudent divestment of present investments in such firms. Currently before the House Aging and Minority Affairs Committee.

Miscellaneous

HB 2828: Directs Department of Human Resources, through the Mental Health Division, to close the Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities Section of Eastern Oregon Hospital and Training Center by June 30, 1983. Requires division to transfer residents to intermediate care facilities. Currently before the House Human Resources Committee.

SB 328: Establishes program for paying partial unemployment benefits to individuals involved in approved work-sharing programs. Senate Labor Committee has referred this bill to the Ways and Means Committee with a recommendation not to pass.



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