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legislature said well we're here, so let's run some bills. It's all for the re-elections. Legislators will be able to say I caught him or her saying yes or no on something. I'll introduce a bill to take care of that and a bill to not fund abortions."

For this session, Post co-sponsored five bills, three of which he referred to as "throwaway" bills.

"I was the first Republican to get a bill signed by the governor (Kate Brown)," Post

said. "It was a pro-business bill to get rid of some restrictions. The governor and I have a unique relationship. She really likes me for some reason, even though we are opposites. She showed us freshmen around and took me by the arm. She said, 'I know I can count on you for the transportation package, right?' I said 'no.' She said, 'That's why I like you.'"

Post used the story as an example of how he didn't change his stances on issues. He noted tallying the second highest no vote count, with 285 no votes.

"There was no reason to vote yes," he said. "If it's 35-25

in the House (Democrats versus Republicans), it's going to pass anyway. What does a 36th yes vote mean? Nothing."

Post noted a concealed handgun license bill passed the House but died in a Senate judiciary committee. He expressed angst over a new law "banning the box" on an application form asking about a criminal background check and also about Senate Bill 454, the mandatory sick leave bill.

"Business will always make the right choice. We don't need government to tell us," Post said.

Post also took exception to House Bill 2960 (mandatory

retirement savings), Senate Bill 324 (reducing greenhouse gas emissions) and Senate Bill 941 (expanded background checks for gun sales).

"There are 19 counties now that have said they won't enforce (SB 941) because they don't have the money to enforce it," Post said. "It was just a feel-good measure."

Post noted HB 2012, the increased minimum wage bill, will be back on the table next February. He found the debate over the bill somewhat entertaining.

"It was the House Democrats fighting the Senate Democrats at the end," Post



Rep. Bill Post speaks during a Keizer Chamber of Commerce Luncheon Aug. 11 at Keizer Quality Suites.

KEIZERTIMES/
Craig Murphy

said. "Tina Kotek wanted \$15 an hour, while Peter Courtney wanted \$373 million for a capitol retrofit. We don't want anyone to die in our capitol. I walked by Courtney's office when Kotek was in there. They were screaming at each other, full volume. The Republicans just laid back and let the Democrats fight each

other." Post noted he responds to every e-mail, which was a chore with SB 941. That bill led to more than 4,000 e-mails, the most he got for any bill. Thatcher agreed she "hands down" got the most comments about that bill as well of all the legislation from this year's session.

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