

Legislature advances sick leave, retirement fund bills

By PETER WONG
Capital Bureau

SALEM — Majority Democrats in the Oregon Legislature have advanced requirements for businesses to provide paid sick leave and offer state-sponsored retirement savings plans to workers.

The state Senate passed the sick-leave requirement on a 17-13 vote Wednesday and moved Senate Bill 454 to the state House.

The House passed the retirement-savings option on a 32-26 vote Wednesday and moved House Bill 2960 to the Senate.

Both bills are expected to come up for votes in the other chamber soon.

Sen. Betsy Johnson of Scappoose was the sole Democrat to join the 12 Republi-

cans in opposition to SB 454.

Reps. David Gomberg, of Otis, and Caddy McKeown, of Coos Bay, were the Democrats who joined 24 Republicans in opposition to HB 2960. One Democrat and one Republican were excused.

The bills passed after debates of more than an hour in the Senate and 90 minutes in the House.

Retirement savings

“Far too many Americans and Oregonians are not saving enough for retirement,” said Rep. Tobias Read, D-Beaverton, one of the chief sponsors of HB 2960. “We can make it easier for Oregonians to do what is in their own best interests.”

A task force led by state Treasurer Ted Wheeler advanced the retirement-savings bill, which would make Oregon the third state to pass such

legislation, after California and Illinois.

After the vote, Wheeler said in a statement:

“Far from being a burden on small businesses, the retirement security bill provides an attractive option to small business owners who would like to offer their employees a retirement plan, but cannot because of cost and administrative hassle.”

While businesses would be required to make a state-sponsored savings plan available in 2017, HB 2960 would not compel them to contribute to a plan, and workers could opt out of participating. A state board created in the Oregon State Treasury would develop a plan that is similar to an individual retirement account, and would be run by a contractor much like the existing 529 Oregon College Savings Plan.

But Rep. Carl Wilson, R-Grants Pass, said workers already can choose from a variety of plans available in the market.

“We are putting together a great statewide mechanism for something that few people will take advantage of,” he said.

The task force found, however, that half of Oregon’s private-sector workers lack access to a savings plan at work — and that participation is likely to jump if one becomes available.

Sick leave

In the Senate, Democrats turned aside Republican attempts to apply the sick-leave requirement only to businesses with 25 or more workers, to require paid leave only for victims of crime and domestic violence, and to exempt agricultural workers.

“What I see is another polarizing issue,” said Sen. Chuck Thomsen, R-Hood River, an orchardist who moved unsuccessfully for the agricultural exemption.

SB 454 would allow workers to accrue leave at one hour for every 30 hours worked, or one and a third hours for every 40 hours worked, up to a maximum of 40 hours per year. Employers could set a maximum of 80 hours accrual, and limit use to 40 hours each year.

The bill applies to businesses with at least 10 workers. Part-time workers would accrue leave at the same rate.

“Working people shouldn’t be forced to choose between their jobs and their health,” said Senate Majority Leader Diane Rosenbaum, D-Portland.

Oregon would become the fourth state to provide for such a requirement, after Connecticut, California and Massachusetts. If Senate Bill 454 passes the House and is signed by Gov. Kate Brown, it would take effect Jan. 1, although penalties for violations could not be levied until January 2017.

Portland already has a sick-leave requirement for businesses with six or more employees. The bill would allow Portland to retain that standard, which the city council put into effect in January 2014, but also nullify a Eugene ordinance that would apply the requirement to all businesses regardless of size.

The Capital Bureau is a collaboration between EO Media Group and Pamplin Media Group.

Worn flags to be retired

The Daily Astorian

The Astoria Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution is collecting American flags that are torn, faded or otherwise in need of retirement at City Lumber, 2142 Commercial St. Flags may

also be given to any member of the group.

The chapter will retire the flags at 1 p.m. Sunday, Flag Day, at Fort Stevens Historical Park. The event is open to the public.

For information about the flag retirement or membership in the chapter, call Sue Glen at 503-861-0574.

Free lunches for children

The Daily Astorian

Children in Astoria, Seaside and Warrenton can enjoy lunches at no charge through the Summer Food Service Program, a federally funded nutrition program open to all children aged 1 to 18 years old. No applications are necessary. On Fri-

days at Broadway Middle School in Seaside only, in addition to lunch, a free fun activity is being offered due to a grant received by Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon.

To find a meal site, text “FOOD” to 877877, call 866-348-6479 or go to www.Summerfoodoregon.org

ACCUWEATHER® FORECAST FOR ASTORIA

Astoria 5-Day Forecast

Tonight
Mostly cloudy
52°

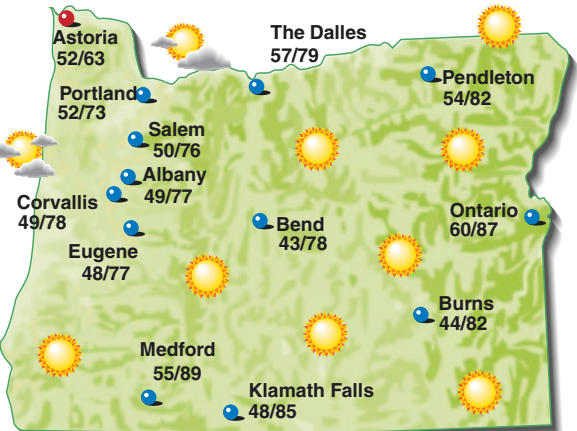
Friday
Breezy with clouds giving way to sun
63° 50°

Sunday
Partly sunny
66° 50°

Saturday
Sunshine and some clouds
63° 50°

Monday
Clouds giving way to some sun
64° 51°

Oregon Weather



Almanac

Astoria through Wednesday.

Temperatures

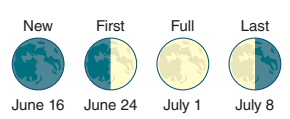
High	63°
Low	54°
Normal high	63°
Normal low	49°

Precipitation

Yesterday	0.00"
Month to date	0.51"
Normal month to date	1.02"
Year to date	27.17"
Normal year to date	34.38"

Sun and Moon

Sunset tonight	9:06 p.m.
Sunrise Friday	5:23 a.m.
Moonrise today	2:28 a.m.
Moonsset today	3:43 a.m.



Under the Sky

Tonight's Sky: The Summer Triangle is in view in the east and northeast at nightfall. The brightest member of the trio is Vega, which is well up in the NE.

Source: Jim Todd, OMSI

Tomorrow's Tides

Astoria / Port Docks			
Time	High	Time	Low
10:49 a.m.	6.9 ft.	4:48 a.m.	0.3 ft.
10:52 p.m.	9.1 ft.	4:35 p.m.	1.5 ft.

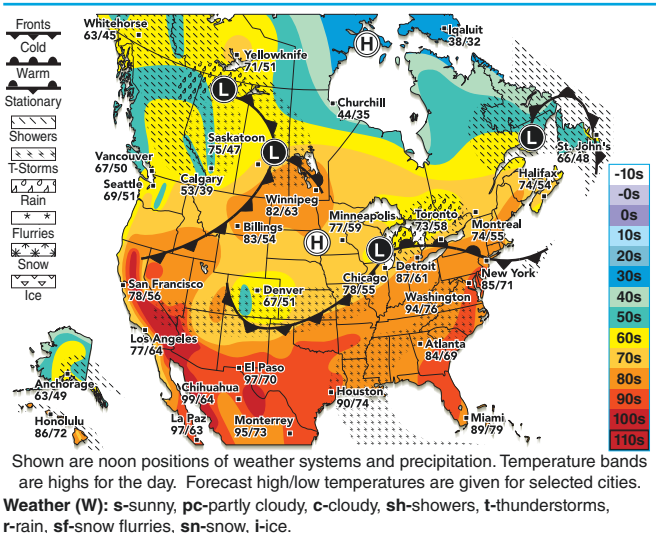
Regional Cities

City	Today			Fri.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Baker City	83	45	s	77	38	s
Bend	83	43	s	78	36	s
Brookings	72	54	s	72	52	s
Eugene	83	48	s	77	45	s
Ilwaco	62	51	pc	63	50	pc
Klamath Falls	86	48	s	85	46	s
Medford	91	55	s	89	51	s
Newport	57	48	s	58	45	s
North Bend	63	51	s	63	49	s

National Cities

City	Today			Fri.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Atlanta	83	70	t	84	69	t
Boston	88	61	pc	85	65	pc
Chicago	77	64	t	78	55	t
Denver	73	52	t	67	51	t
Des Moines	84	61	t	75	60	t
Detroit	79	66	t	87	61	t
El Paso	98	72	s	97	70	s
Fairbanks	59	42	sh	62	43	pc
Honolulu	87	72	s	86	72	pc
Indianapolis	91	71	pc	87	65	t
Kansas City	86	62	t	72	63	t
Las Vegas	96	78	pc	97	79	pc
Los Angeles	76	64	pc	77	64	pc
Memphis	91	74	t	87	72	t
Miami	89	79	t	89	79	t
Nashville	90	71	pc	86	70	t
New Orleans	86	75	t	84	76	t
New York	90	71	pc	85	71	pc
Oklahoma City	91	71	pc	88	68	t
Philadelphia	95	73	t	95	74	pc
St. Louis	95	76	pc	88	70	t
Salt Lake City	77	60	t	85	59	pc
San Francisco	73	56	pc	78	56	pc
Seattle	75	52	s	69	51	s
Washington, DC	95	77	pc	94	76	pc

Tomorrow's National Weather



College breaks ground on Patriot Hall

The Daily Astorian

Clatsop Community College breaks ground on the 18-month redevelopment of Patriot Hall from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday and invites the public to take part.

The ceremony begins at 11:30 a.m. in Patriot Hall, located at the corner of 16th Street and Lexington Avenue. A complimentary lunch will be served following the ceremony at approximately noon. Historic photos from the college archive will

be on display, and a book in which to record Patriot Hall memories will be available.

Constructed in 1921 as part of Astoria High School, Patriot Hall later became part of the college campus, used for its gym, weight room, physical education courses and archives. But state seismologists in the 2000s gave the building a 100 percent chance of falling down in a major earthquake.

In 2013, the college was offered \$7.99 million in state

bonds to develop a health and wellness center. In the November election, the college secured an \$8 million local bond to match.

The Patriot Hall Redevelopment is an entirely new academic hall inside much of the existing shell. It will include a new gym, elevated running track and classroom space for the new Emergency Medical Technician program, exercise physiology degree, and substance abuse counseling certificate the college hopes to add.

Death

June 9, 2015

CLARK, Carol, 79, of Seaside, died in Seaside.

Caldwell's Funeral & Cremation Arrangement Center in Seaside is in charge of the arrangements.

Lotteries

OREGON

Wednesday's Pick 4:

1 p.m.: 7-9-7-9

4 p.m.: 5-5-9-2

7 p.m.: 2-8-2-3

10 p.m.: 3-0-0-2

Wednesday's Megabucks:

11-29-40-44-45-47

Estimated jackpot: \$1 million.

Washington

Wednesday's Powerball:

31-32-48-49-53, Powerball: 25,

Power Play: 2

Estimated jackpot: \$50 million.

Washington

Wednesday's Daily Game:

4-9-1

Wednesday's Hit 5:

01-06-20-30-38

Estimated jackpot: \$130,000

Wednesday's Keno:

01-03-04-19-22-26-27-29-30-41-42-

43-46-48-54-58-59-65-67-79

Wednesday's Lotto:

16-24-31-34-37-49

Estimated jackpot: \$2.4 million

Wednesday's Match 4:

04-07-12-17

Public meetings

THURSDAY

Seaside Convention Center Commission,

5 p.m., Seaside Civic and Convention Center, 415 First Ave., Seaside.

Gearhart Planning Commission, 6

p.m., Gearhart City Hall, 698 Pacific Way, Gearhart.

MONDAY

Astoria City Council, 7 p.m., Astoria City

Hall, 1095 Duane St.

CORRECTION

Name spelled wrong — Because of incorrect information received, Courtney Drake Ostlund's middle name was spelled wrong in his obituary, which ran Wednesday in The Daily Astorian.

For online updates:
www.dailyastorian.com

OBITUARY POLICY

The Daily Astorian publishes paid obituaries. The obituary can include a small photo and, for veterans, a flag symbol at no charge. The deadline for all obituaries is 9 a.m. the business day prior.

Obituaries may be edited for spelling, proper punctuation and style. Death notices and upcoming services will be published at no charge. Notices must be submitted by 9 a.m. the day of publication.

Obituaries and notices may be submitted online at www.dailyastorian.com/obituaryform, by email at ewilson@dailyastorian.com, placed via the funeral home or in person at The Daily Astorian office, 949 Exchange St. in Astoria. For more information, call 503-325-3211, ext. 257.

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