

Pot: City would lose state taxes on cannabis with 'no' vote

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Councilors are divided over the range of options: repeal of the existing ordinance that prohibits the operation of any medical marijuana facility, declaring a ban on sales or referring the matter back to the voters.

Their decision could open the door to a referendum in November.

If petitioners representing

one side or the other gather enough signatures, they could bring cannabis licensing and sales rules back for a vote.

"My question, is there any real danger?" Vetter said. "That's kind of the main argument of a lot of the people hear. They really feel it's dangerous and could create a very dangerous situation for our kids and our community. I don't see that danger."

Voters may decide

Chamber member and City Councilor Wendy Higgins said rather than have the council make decisions for the voters, she would prefer the voters decide in November.

"This whole thing keeps changing and shifting, but I think right now the majority feel they want to see what the voters say," Higgins said. "I want people to give me their opinion. I want people to say,

"This is what I want."

No one has applied for a business license to sell recreational or medical cannabis, Vetter said, although there has "been interest."

At the March council meeting, Cannon Beach resident Marlene Laws, an opponent of cannabis shops in the city, asked councilors to take the option of allowing a licensed recreational shop as a referendum in the November election.

With a no vote, Cannon Beach would lose out on state taxes on cannabis sale, Vetter said.

"We do give something away, because marijuana businesses pay 25 percent tax," he said. "Some of that goes back to the state, and some of that goes to the city, if we allow it. If we disallow it, we get nothing."

But the main risk of denying permits for cannabis sales is the publicity that would be

associated with the decision, Vetter said.

"This is going to be during our peak season," Vetter said. "We're going to have all these marijuana signs, signs in stores and shops, signs that would be a distraction — and in the long run I don't see the danger. I think in the long run marijuana will be looked at and treated in the same way as alcohol. There's just a lot of unfounded fears."

Lambert: Free logic is a standard part of logic books

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these things told me it was. And then I received praise and much condemnation, too," he said. "There was a discovery, and then I had to show the discovery actually wasn't crazy."

Other logicians had attempted to revise classical logic for different reasons, but without success. At first, critics thought Lambert's free logic was trivial and difficult, a needless departure from a tradition that could address the same shortcomings in some other way.

"But, over a period of about 40 years, it began to get a considerable amount of credibility," he said. "This little thing that I helped to invent just simplified everything."

Nowadays, free logic is a standard part of logic books — as is "Lambert's Law," a basic principle that deals with the analysis of definite descriptions.

Thinking abstractly

Born in 1928 in a Chicago suburb, Lambert grew up wanting to be an athlete. He attended the University of New Mexico and Willamette University on a football scholarship, but had to face the fact that he wasn't built for the big leagues.

"It became very clear to me, soon, that I was never going to be a professional football player," he said.

Fortunately, he had an apti-

'I really didn't know I was doing anything extraordinary.'

J. Karel Lambert

a professor emeritus of logic and philosophy of science who broke new ground in the field of logic

tude for abstract reasoning — a trait that may have been hereditary. His father, for example, was a sailor who taught himself calculus.

As a child, Lambert read his mother's encyclopedia, The Book of Knowledge, for pleasure.

"I don't say I understood everything, but I went through all 20 volumes, because I liked it. I found that stuff fascinating," he said.

He admits, however, that his mechanical aptitude is somewhat lacking.

"And those skills have lasted all my life: the ability to think abstract things, and to be utterly frustrated by the actual world," he said, laughing. "So, as probably happens with most people, you go where things are most comfortable. And intellectual things were very comfortable to me."

Solving the problem

After earning a master's degree in experimental psychology at the University of Oregon, he pursued a doctorate degree in philosophy and psychology at Michigan State

University, where he began to see the gaps in classical logic while doing research for his dissertation.

It was while he was teaching at the University of Alberta in Canada that Lambert invented free logic as a way to represent a person's belief in things — from ether to the planet Vulcan — that may not exist.

"I knew what I had to do, right? And I went ahead and did it," he said. "And I was stupid enough so that I didn't know it shouldn't or couldn't be done."

David Weber, a senior instructor of philosophy at Portland State University, wrote in a message, "We talk all the time about things that don't exist. Classical logic, which assumes that names refer to existing things, has a hard time capturing the logic of some of that kind of talk."

"Lambert's free logic — logic free of existence assumptions — is a way of getting around that problem," Weber said.

'Tickled pink'

The author or co-author of more than a dozen books,

Lambert might never have led a scholarly life without one game-changing gift: the GI Bill, which he called "the absolutely greatest thing to happen to me and lots of other people."

"Without the GI Bill, I'm not sure I could've gone to college," said Lambert, who served in the U.S. Navy Air Corps near the end of World War II.

Lambert — a professor emeritus of logic and philosophy of science at the University of California, Irvine, and the University of Salzburg in Austria — is a passionate advocate for higher education. In 2014, he penned a guest column for The Daily Astorian about the need to increase funding for Oregon's colleges and universities.

A self-described "physical fitness nut," he enjoys hiking, playing golf and following politics.

Though he considers himself an independent, "there's no doubt about it, I have liberal leanings," he said. "I'd love to see Bernie Sanders get nominated, and I'd love to be able to vote for him."

Lambert has three children with his wife, Carol, a descendant of Astoria's famous Caruthers family.

"I kind of married into a part of — although I didn't know it at the time — a part of Astoria's history, and I loved it from the very beginning," he said. "I'm tickled pink to be here."

— Erick Bengel

Suit: Prescribed drug can cause ulcers and bleeding in stomach

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Diclofenac, an anti-inflammatory drug, is often prescribed to help relieve mild to moderate pain from arthritis, according to the U.S. National Library of Medicine. The drug can cause ulcers and bleeding in the stomach or intestine that can be fatal. Older patients are considered at higher risk.

The lawsuit, filed by Mark McCulloch, a Portland attorney, alleges the hospital was informed when Potter was admitted for abdominal pain and diagnosed with a perforated ulcer that she had been taking diclofenac.

Duret, according to the suit, continued to prescribe the drug after the operation and after Potter complained of stomach problems while recovering at Clatsop Care Center.

After being found on a floor semi-conscious and unre-

sponsive, the suit claims, Potter was taken to Providence St. Vincent Medical Center in Portland and diagnosed with an acute gastrointestinal hemorrhage. She was released back to Clatsop Care Center and then to hospice care, where she died in July 2013.

Potter, who was born and raised in Astoria and graduated from Star of the Sea School, was a bookkeeper and community volunteer.

She was married to Tom Potter, who served for one term on the City Council and was appointed to the Historic Landmarks Commission. The couple had three daughters and were together for 47 years.

When Tom Potter died last year at 77, daughter Catherine Stutznegger told The Daily Astorian that her father had a "broken heart. Just got tired," she said. "Ready to go see Mom."



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