



The Urban League of Portland has held three Community Congresses in the Eliot, King and Boise neighborhoods to gather information for Community Service Agency grants. Above, at the King meeting, are: Cornetta Smith, AMA Family

Day and Night Care Program; Benjamin Mallard of Houston; County Commissioner Gordon Shadburne; Bill Kincaid, Portland Development Commission; Bruce Broussard, Portland Observer; Jackie Lynch, Urban League, and Lance Fluker. (Photo: Richard J. Brown)

McCoy hires new staff

Multnomah County Commissioner Gladys McCoy has announced the addition of two new staff assistants, Lynette Stinson and Richard Ellmyer.

Ms. Stinson previously served as Staff Person for Senator Bill McCoy. She studied at the University of Portland with emphasis on Business Administration. She served as an administrative assistant in a community action agency in Oakland, California, prior to moving to Gresham five and one-half years ago. Ms. Stinson will be concerned with issues in Environmental Services and Human Services.

Richard Ellmyer, who resides in the St. Johns neighborhood, previously served as Legislative Assistant for Senator Bill McCoy. Ellmyer is actively involved in the North Portland Citizens Committee and the North Portland Community Action Council, and serves as Democratic Party District Leader from House District 15. He earned his degree from Upsala College in East Orange, New Jersey. Ellmyer will focus his attention on County Management and will develop a series of Future Forums dealing with the mission and scope of County government five to 10 years from now.

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Pacific Power Citizen of the Week



Dani Lynne Barnett has enrolled at Howard University where she will study Business Administration.

Dani attended Whitaker, Vernon and Faubion schools and is a 1981 graduate of Madison High School. Her school activities included speech and drama. She excelled academically and was frequently on the honor roll.

While attending school, she worked for the PSU Educational Center and then for the Northeast Neighborhood Office.

Dani's goals include becoming a Certified Public Accountant and then opening her own accounting firm.

She is the daughter of Matthew and Dorothy Barnett.

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Oregon legislative session mixed bag

The results of the 1981 Legislative session were mixed. Gains were made in affirmative action legislation and the racial harassment bill was passed, but legislative establishment of the Black and Hispanic Commissions failed.

The following bills were passed and have been signed by the governor or are pending signature.

Affirmative Action:

SB 680 declares that affirmative action will be used when making appointments to state commissions and advisory boards. Governors making appointments "are encouraged to implement this policy of affirmative action in their appointments, subject to the legal requirements for each appointment."

HB 2467 and HB 3281 require that school districts and state institutions of higher education, when required to reduce teaching staffs due to school enrollment or lack of funds, "shall make every effort to transfer teachers of courses scheduled for discontinuation to other positions for which they are qualified. Merit and seniority shall be considered in determination of a teacher for such transfer." This legislation, sponsored by the Oregon Association of Teachers, precludes the use of seniority as the sole determinant and attempts to protect minority teachers who often have little seniority.

HB 2965 requires that all state agencies review affirmative action objectives and performance for the current biennium and plan for the next biennium as part of their budget presentation. The bill was sponsored by Reps. Margie Hendrickson, Jane Cease, Gretchen Kafoury, Grattan Kerans, Mary Burrows, Jim Chrest, Wally Priestley, and Nancy Ryles, and Senators Bill McCoy and Frank Roberts.

HB 2966 requires that all state agencies include affirmative action goals and achievement as part of their evaluation of management.

HB 3242 requires the extension of affirmative action goals to program delivery and requires that all contracts with non-governmental agencies be amended to include this requirement. The state affirmative action office will monitor.

This bill, introduced at the request of the governor, addresses the frequent charges that many state agencies and state-supported programs do not adequately serve the minority population.

Racial Harassment:

The governor's racial harassment bill was passed in amended form. It states that any act of intimidation, under the existing law of intimidation, will become a more serious offense if racial in nature.

A person who, by reason of race, color, religion, or national origin, intimidates another is guilty of a Class A Misdemeanor. If two or more persons conspire to intimidate, they are guilty of a Class C Felony and can be sentenced to five years in prison and/or a \$2,500 fine.

The person or persons who are intimidated, or the Attorney General or a district attorney, can file a civil claim for an injunction, damages or other appropriate relief.

This bill was introduced at the request of Governor Atiyeh. The Senate amended the bill to include sexual harassment. A long dispute with the House followed, with Rep. Tom Mason and Rep. Bill Rutherford refusing to accept the inclusion of sexual harassment. During the closing hours of the Legislative session, the House version prevailed. The governor will sign the bill Friday, August 21.

Black and Hispanic Commissions:

Governor Atiyeh established, by executive order, a Commission on Black Affairs and a Commission on Hispanic Affairs, and appointed members to them. He then requested that the commissions be established by the legislature so that they would be permanent commissions.

HB 2041 and HB 2042 were passed by the House Committee on Aging and Minority Affairs. Rather than going to the full House for passage without an attached budget, they were sent by the committee to the Ways and Means Committee, where they died. A separate bill, SB 5559, was adopted to appropriate \$1 to each of the two governor's commissions. This bill also sets a \$25,000 maximum for any future appropriations for each commission.

Less successful were a series of Civil Rights bills, many of them requested by the Bureau of Labor and Industries. Several observers credit their defeat to lack of effort in their behalf by that agency.

SB 189 would have required persons applying for teaching certificate renewal to demonstrate knowledge of state and federal civil rights laws.

SB 206 would have extended from six months to one year the period in which a complaint can be filed.

SB 216 would have protected certain material from public disclosure during a civil rights investigation.

SB 218 would have added age as a protected class in public accommodation.

SB 221 would have allowed the Bureau of Labor and Industries to fine companies that do not abide by orders to refrain from discrimination.

SB 223 would have prohibited employers, labor unions and apprenticeship and training committees from discriminating in selection of trainees.

SB 226 would have allowed the Bureau of Labor and Industries to file civil suits against employers who are alleged to use unlawful practices.

HB 2791, introduced by Rep. Vera Katz, would have allowed cities and counties to adopt civil rights legislation that would provide more protection than state laws.

Juries:

Two bills were introduced to address the lack of minorities on

juries.

HB 2772 would have prohibited prosecutors from exercising peremptory jury challenges solely because of race, color, religion, national origin or sex. HB 2798 would have ordered the county clerk to add representatives of minority groups to the jury list in proportion to their numbers in the county. The first bill addressed the problem of prosecutors removing all minorities from the juries of minority defendants; the latter addresses the lack of minorities on the jury panels, which are selected by chance from voter registration lists. Both bills were tabled in the House Judiciary Committee.

HB 2700 would have prohibited discrimination in availability of insurance and application of insurance rates.

Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthdate will be commemorated, but not as a legal holiday. The second Monday in January will be celebrated as a Day of Commemoration, the same as Columbus Day and February 14, the day Oregon became a state.

HB 528, which was sponsored by the Black United Front and the

National Lawyers Guild, was tabled in the House Judiciary Committee.

This bill would have restricted the use of deadly force by police officers to protecting life. Currently, police can kill an escaping felon or a person escaping the scene of a felony.

HB 2618, which would have prevented state agencies from investing funds in companies that do business in countries that practice legal racial separation, was tabled in the House Committee on Aging and Minority Affairs.

Three bills were passed that affect Indians. A Senate Joint Memorial asks Congress to repudiate the existing policy of terminating Indian tribes and to restore recognition to those tribes that have been terminated. HB 3196 provides for civil action against persons who violate Indian graves. HB 3195 requires the Fish and Wildlife Department to provide salmon for religious ceremonial use by the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indian tribes.

Overall, those bills that dealt with affirmative action in state agencies were adopted, while bills dealing with private corporations and the criminal justice system did not pass.

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