



Letters to the Editor

Separation of powers dictates 'no' vote

To the editor:

I'm writing to urge a "No" vote on Ballot Measure 5, the proposal to give the Governor the authority to appoint the Chief Justice of the Oregon Supreme Court.

Measure 5 is a result of the 1981 Special Session of the Legislature dealing with state financing of local courts and with reorganization of the state court structure. As part of the political compromise which the Legislature struck with the Governor to forestall his veto of the court bills, Measure 5 refers this question of executive authority directly to the

voters. It does so precisely because, while the Governor favors his Office's having the power to appoint the Chief Justice, a majority of the Legislature does not.

As the Oregon State Bar has noted in arguing against passage of the proposal, Measure 5 would fundamentally change the "separation of powers" principle dividing our government into the legislative, executive and judicial branches. It would give the head of one branch the power to appoint the head of another, and this appointment, unlike many others, would not even be subject to "check and balance"

confirmation by the State Senate. It would also eliminate the process, existing since the adoption of our State Constitution, whereby the seven justices of the Supreme Court, whom the voters elect as constitutional officers of the state, independently select the Chief Justice from among themselves.

A "No" vote on Measure 5 is essential to the preservation of the independence of our highest court and the separation of powers of our state government.

Fred W. Heard
Senate President

Calls for unity on candidates

To the editor:

On May 18, 1982 we have the opportunity to elect representatives from within our community to the State House of Representatives. As I am sure you know, there are nine (9) individuals in competition for the Democratic nomination, three (3) whites and six (6) blacks. In an effort to ensure that this representative comes from our community, I am writing this letter in hopes of uniting our efforts to elect a black

State Representative from the 18th District.

In the process of selecting this candidate, your main consideration should be which candidate has the experience and ability to provide immediate help to our community. Do we want to send someone who will have to spend one or maybe two terms in office before they learn the "ins" and "outs" of Salem? I believe all six individuals are sincere in their causes, but only one can be of real help to us in the near future.

After studying and giving careful consideration to all the candidates, it is my opinion that Harold Williams is your best choice.

I would like to take this opportunity to call on all six candidates to take a giant step for our community by putting egos aside and sitting down to negotiate in an all-out campaign to unify our community behind one candidate: Harold Williams.

Rothey Manus

Supports Clark for governor

To the editor:

As Chairman of the Democratic Party (1980-81), I worked hard to help my party focus on mainstream issues: jobs, health care, inflation, energy, taxes—and to strengthen the Party so it can help Oregon meet those issues. I urge Democratic voters to nominate Don Clark for Governor for three solid reasons:

1) Clark's been that rare office holder who's worked within the Party, as well as his office, to improve things—and if the Party is ever to meet its needed role, it must encourage people who do that.

2) Clark's the only candidate with

real administrative experience in government. He's run the biggest county in the state for eight years—and while metropolitan counties throughout the country were meeting disaster, he's kept it solvent and on the job.

3) Most important, Clark is the one candidate who's come right out in front on the issues. While his major opponent was saying, "I'll tell you what I'm for in September," Don followed a 3-step plan: he toured the state to ask people's concerns; he developed action plans to meet those concerns; and then he put them in writing, so we'd know where he really stood.

And the actions?

An intelligent and gutsy jobs program; a direct attack on health care inflation; a sensible rescue for our cracking penal system (as a former sheriff, he has no pie-in-the-sky illusions there, either); a housing plan that will increase new starts, now; a balanced, farsighted energy policy.

Democrats can't afford cosmetic candidates this year. Oregon needs a Governor who dares to lead, and for 18 years, Don Clark has proved he will. He deserves our support.

Joe Smith
Immediate Past Chairman,
Democratic Party of Oregon

Oppose prison bond measure

To the editor:

Oregonians will soon vote on Bond Measure #3, a request for \$60 million for the expansion of existing jail and prison facilities to alleviate overcrowding. This figure is deceiving for it is exclusive of interest rates, operating costs and inflation.

Construction of new facilities requires 3 to 4 years. According to Robert Watson, Administrator of Corrections, this delay would increase the cost per (maximum security) cell from \$65,000 to \$161,700. Aside from the greater cost, any delay offers little to relieve overcrowding. Operating costs are the most ex-

pensive, with the initial cost of constructing a medium security facility being matched every 4 to 5 years. To Oregonians this would mean \$120 million over 10 years and \$960 million over 30 years. Oregon cannot afford these enormous sums when there are daily accounts of budget cuts in education, community services and law enforcement.

Oregon incarcerates so many persons it ranks among the highest third of all states. Our nation detains over 550,000 people behind the walls of 6,980 correctional facilities. Few countries impose harsher sentences than the United States, and only South Africa and Russia impri-

son more people. Despite these disturbing facts people of Oregon, of our nation, do not feel safe; crime flourishes and so does the public's fear. Expanding existing correctional institutions is not the best solution.

Voters of New York, Michigan and Rhode Island opposed similar bond measures forcing these states to explore more immediate and cost efficient solutions to the dilemma of overcrowding.

Oregonians can do the same. Vote NO on 3!

Lora Pierce
People for Prison Alternatives

Vote 'No' on Measure No. 5

Ballot Measure No. 5 would radically change the method of choosing the Chief Justice of the Oregon Supreme Court. It would take from the Justices themselves, who are elected by the people on a non-partisan basis, their long-standing authority to choose their own Chief Justice. *It would give that power, for the first time in the history of Oregon, to the Governor instead.*

Oregon's constitution provides for three *separate* branches of government. Ballot Measure No. 5 ignores this important principle.

The voters of Oregon should reject this attempt to place the choice of the state's chief judicial officer in partisan hands.

Protect the independence of Oregon's Courts and Judges.

Rep. Wally Priestley
7427 N. Lancaster Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97217



JOE URIS for CITY COUNCIL

Joe Uris supports community police review—
my opponent does not.

Joe Uris will work for jobs, greater
community power and equal rights for all.

JOE URIS—A BREATH OF FRESH AIR IN THE STALE CORRIDORS OF GOVERNMENT.

Joe Uris for City Commissioner Committee. Richard B. Solomon, Treas.
p.o. box 12581 Portland, 97212

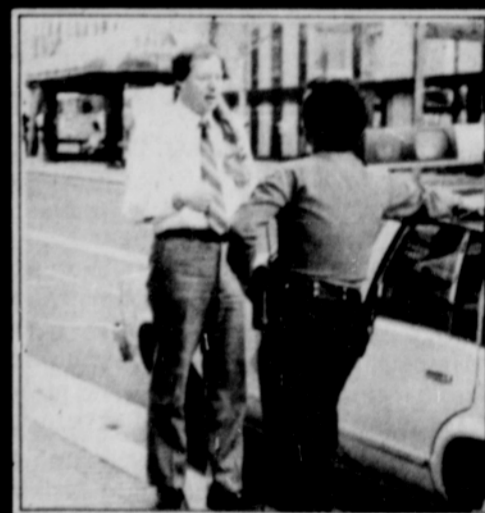


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means!"

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Supports Basic Services . . . Not New Taxes

- **Efficient Management**
Cut unnecessary spending while preserving basic services. Improve county management with greater efficiency.
- **Positive Leadership**
Work with the community to find new ways to solve our problems without more taxes.
- **Reduce Crime**
Make neighborhoods safe by providing adequate sheriff's protection and jail space for violent criminals.



Shadburne works for you

More Jobs—Supporting the growth of new businesses and programs.

911—Supporting the growth of the emergency services.

Youth—Supporting the growth of the youth services.

Senior Citizens—Supporting the growth of the senior citizens services.

No New Tax Base—Supporting the growth of the tax base without new taxes.

Citizen Involvement—Supporting the growth of the citizen involvement.

Senior Citizens—Supporting the growth of the senior citizens services.