



Washington Hot Line

by Congressman Ron Wyden

Jobs.
No single issue is as constantly in the public eye as jobs and their creation. In the minds of legislators also, job creation is a primary task.

Yet with a federal deficit exceeding \$200 billion, it is clear we can not achieve this goal by throwing money at the problem. We have to find ways to stimulate growth and facilitate change in the economy that are not heavy-handed and do not dip further into the already sparsely filled pockets of the taxpayers.

That's why I want to share with you an idea I am working on that I think will prove to be a very cost-efficient and inexpensive program that the Federal Government can undertake to help train workers for the economy of tomorrow.

Vocational Education in this country is facing a crisis. Simply put, it can not afford the kind of equipment and tools necessary to train workers for jobs in high technology and in industries that are using high-tech machinery.

That's no easy nut to crack. That kind of equipment—computers, computerized machinery, medical devices—is not cheap. Hence, while education funds at the local, state

and federal level are all being reduced, vocational education institutions are faced with the need to make a large investment in equipment.

To meet this need, I am going to support the idea of "state equipment pools." There are already programs of this nature in South Carolina and Oklahoma. They work something like a lending library.

Under this program, the state buys the needed equipment and then loans it to local school districts when they need it. This saves the wasteful practice of every school district going out and buying the same items and ensures that the equipment that is bought will be efficiently used.

What the states need is a modest commitment on the part of the Federal Government to help fund the purchase of this equipment. I will support establishing that commitment.

Getting a program of state equipment pools off the ground would be an investment that would repay itself many times. It will help train workers and ensure that America's economy stays competitive with other nations. That is the kind of investment this country needs to make.

Stop sales tax!

Stop the sales tax!
This has become the battle-cry of thousands of angry Oregonians and their equally angry grass-roots organizations as anti-sales tax forces joined forces last week to rally opposition to the most regressive of all forms of taxation.

Spearheaded by the Oregon State Grange, traditional leader of anti-sales tax fights for more than half a century, the new umbrella federation has been christened the No Sales Tax League.

W. C. Harris, Master of the Oregon State Grange, was elected chairman of the league. Other officers include Vern Cook, former state senator, vice-chairman; Dave McTeague of Clackamas County Citizens Opposed to the Sales Tax, Secretary; and George Starr, former state legislator, treasurer.

Teaming up with the Grange in the battle against this sales tax, as it has since 1934, is the Oregon-Washington Farmers Union. Spokesmen for the OWFU say their organization, like the Grange and other farm groups, is alarmed at what the measure now being considered would do to the already depressed farm economy.

Adding its considerable weight to the developing anti-sales tax campaign is the Oregon AFL-CIO, whose delegates voted overwhelmingly at the organization's recent state convention to oppose the measure passed by the 1983 legislature. Organized Labor has been a consistent ally of the Grange in the many successful battles to bury the sales

tax since 1934.
Marshalling their efforts under the banner of the No Sales Tax League, too, are the Gray Panthers and most other senior citizen groups in the state. They are concerned that the regressive nature of the sales tax will deal most harshly with the elderly and those on fixed incomes. Oregon Fair Share and several other grass-roots groups are also part of the anti-sales tax umbrella organization.

The No Sales Tax League has been set up as a permanent organization until the issue is resolved but officers, says chairman Harris, are temporary until it is determined whether or not the proposed measure wins approval of school boards and local government bodies now voting in accordance with a proviso stipulated by the legislature. The sales tax will go to the voters only if a majority of those bodies approve. Permanent officers of the No Sales Tax League will be selected if the measure goes on the ballot.

The procedure of referring a legislative enactment to local governments and school boards is highly questionable, and, in the opinion of many attorneys, is blatantly unconstitutional, Harris says. The proponents, who boast a war-chest of one to three million dollars, he adds, are nevertheless determined to get their regressive tax approved at any cost.

Peace prayer day set

A Day of Prayer for Peace will be held at the Sanctuary of Our Sorrowful Mother, N.E. 85th Ave. and Sandy Blvd. in Portland, on Saturday, November 12, from 9:30 a.m. until 8:45 p.m.

The Day of Prayer for Peace is sponsored by the Peace Task Force of the Catholic Archdiocese of Portland and Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon.

The event is an ecumenical observance which examines society's need for peace and the various reli-

gious and moral traditions regarding peace.

Lectures, poetry readings, films, prayer sessions and panel presentations will highlight the Day of Prayer.

Keynote speaker for the Day of Prayer for Peace is Father Henry LaCerte, O.S.B. of the Department of Theology at Mount Angel Seminary. He will speak on "The Peaceful Creation and Society's Need for Peace."

Commission meets

PORTLAND, OR—The Oregon Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is convening a community forum on the subject of Southeast Asian refugee civil rights issues. The forum will be held on Friday, November 18, 1983 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Room 233-229 of the Federal Building, 1220 S.W. Third, Portland.

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Waffle Breakfast, Delta Mothers & Patroness Club, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Sat., Nov. 12th, Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, 116 N.E. Schuyler. Donation \$2.50.

Open House for grades K-8, New Saint Andrew School, 10:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 13th, 4919 N.E. 9th Avenue.

Holiday Palette '83 Bazaar, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Fri., Nov. 18th; 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sat., Nov. 19th, First Presbyterian Fellowship Hall, 501 Mission Drive, Newberg.

Christmas Bazaar, 1-5 p.m., Sat. & Sun., Nov. 19th & 20th, Bethel A.M.E. Church, 5828 N.E. 8th Ave.

Holiday Bazaar, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sat., Nov. 12th, First Presbyterian Church, 501 Mission Drive, Newberg.

Something To Think About
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SHOULD THE BODY BE VIEWED?
Some people have strong views on this question and these should be respected. Others have no firm commitment one way or the other, and would answer such a question on the basis of circumstances. For these people, we would offer the following advice, based on many years of experience.
If the body can be made viewable, it should be viewed. It serves a number of very helpful and constructive purposes. In cases where the decedent has been living away from home, or confined to a distant medical institution, viewing can provide the confirmation that death has occurred.
It provides a way to recall the loved one as he or she should be remembered—free of the evidence of pain, wasting, or injury. Viewing is likewise considered therapeutic for people. It is especially helpful for a child who has experienced the death of one loved. Instead of relying on imagination, the child can begin to comprehend the real meaning of death.
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