Poll on tax plan shows voter volatility

By JIM REDDEN Capital Bureau

A new poll on the corporate sales tax measure that will appear on the November ballot indicates that the proposal is not only controversial, but

The latest poll shows the measure, known as Initiative Petition 28, being supported by 65 percent of Oregon voters. However, a survey by iCitizen, a non-partisan public involvement company, also shows that supporters aren't fixed in their viewpoint. Among those surveyed, 29 percent were "strongly" in favor of the measure, while 36 percent said they "somewhat" favored it.

According to the poll of 555 registered voters, which was conducted online, the tax is opposed by 19 percent of respondents, with 16 percent undecided. More than half of the "no" voters characterize their opposition as

'Very fluid issue'

The iCitizen poll is one of at least three recently released polls on the tax proposal, and its results differ markedly from previous surveys that showed weaker support for the measure.

A DHM Research poll done in May for Oregon Public Broadcasting and television station KPTV found 51 percent in favor, 32 percent opposed and 18 percent undecided.

A poll released in June by Salem's Action Solutions showed 41 percent would support IP28, with 23 percent opposed and 35 percent undecided.

The questions in the three polls were also different. For example, the Action Solutions poll asked voters to respond to a short version of the ballot title. DHM Research asked voters to respond to a longer version of the title. The iCitizen poll paraphrased the title and summary, and also called it "the Business Tax Increase Initiative," a term that will not appear on the ballot.

Traditionally, support for ballot measures falls as campaigns get underway. The iCitizen poll found that IP28 support drops sharply (particularly among Republican voters) if respondents are offered an opposing argument. Although the tax could provide needed funding for popular state programs, support drops to 55 percent if respondents are told opponents claim the additional tax burden will hurt businesses in Oregon.

"This is a very fluid issue," says Mark Keida, iCitizen's director of research. He said the language explaining the measure that will appear on the ballot is favorable to supporters. But, he noted, "Support disappears fast if an opposition argument is mentioned."

Rebecca Tweed, who is helping

lead opposition to IP28 as campaign coordinator for Defeat the Tax on Oregon Sales, found the poll hard to believe. "This poll is dramatically inconsistent with other public polling, including polls the Portland Tribune has published previously.

'As the nonpartisan Legislative Revenue Office made clear in its IP28 analysis last month, the bulk of this \$6 billion tax on Oregon sales will be passed on to consumers through higher prices for groceries, medicine, electricity, gas, insurance, phone services — essentials people buy every day. The more Oregonians learn about IP28, the less they like it."

Asked to comment on the new poll, Katherine Driessen, press secretary for the IP28 campaign committee, said, "When you look across the country, Oregon is dead last in corporate taxes. Oregon voters know that if we are going to finally improve our badly underfunded schools and critical services, large, out-of-state corporations are going to have to start paying their fair share.

What is IP28?

The initiative has been certified for the November election but not yet been given the measure number that will appear on voters' ballots. It is sponsored by a coalition of labor, social justice and small business organizations called Our Oregon. It would impose a 2.5 percent tax on the sales of "C" corporations that exceed \$25 million a year, generating an estimated \$3 billion a year in additional tax revenue. The measure says the funds are to be spent on education, health care and senior services, although the Legislature could change that.

Our Oregon is supported largely by public employee unions, including the Oregon Education Association.

The measure is opposed by much of the business community, including the Portland Business Alliance and the Westside Economic Alliance. A report released in May by the Legislative Revenue Office found it would slow income, employment and population growth during the next five years. Among other things, the report said IP28 would be equivalent to a \$600 per person tax increase each year.

The Legislative Revenue Office also found that, although only about 1,000 corporations would pay the additional tax, they account for 88 percent of the corporate retail trade in Oregon. Utilities such as Portland General Electric and large grocery and department stores would be among the entities required to pay the tax.

The iCitizen poll showed support for IP28 is strongest among Democrats, men and young voters. Young voters are the least likely to return their

When the opposition argument is added, support for IP28 drops among all demographic categories, but especially among Republicans (from 47 percent to 29 percent).

Support for three more

Pollsters also gauged support for three other ballot measures headed for the November ballot. Initiative Petition 68 would prohibit the sale in Oregon of products made from 12 types of exotic or endangered animals. Backers of the measure, known as the Wildlife Tracking Prevention Act, expect to submit more than enough signatures to place the measure on the ballot in the coming days. The iCitizen survey found 85 percent of respondents favored the measure.

Responses to the other two proposals were far less conclusive. The poll found that 50 percent of respondents oppose Senate Joint Resolution 4, a legislative referral to remove the mandatory retirement age for judges in the state, which is 75. Only 36 percent support it, while 15 percent are unsure. Interestingly, older voters were the most likely to support keeping the mandatory retirement age.

Initiative Petition 49, which would restrict the Legislature's use of emergency clauses on legislation has support from 35 percent of voters polled, but even more (39 percent) are unsure.

The iCitizen online poll of 555 registered Oregon voters was conducted between June 23 and 27. The data were weighed to U.S. Census benchmarks for gender, age, region, education, income, and race. The margin of error for the full sample was plus or minus 4 percent.

What's iCitizen?

The company conducting the poll, iCitizen, was founded in 2012 as a social networking service focused on civic engagement. It envisioned a nonpartisan civic engagement app where people could find information, be heard and work together with their representatives to create an impact in their communities. The company was relaunched in January 2016 with a broader vision to help citizens, representatives, candidates, organizations, schools and companies strengthen their relationships with their communities and one another.

The company's vice president of state government relations is former Washington County Republican state Sen. Bruce Starr. (Starr is a co-sponsor of the proposed Wildlife Tracking Prevention Act.) Another Oregon connection is former state Rep. Derrick Kitts, who is iCitizen's vice president for government relations

BRIEFLY

Wolf delisting lawsuit against **Oregon reinstated**

PORTLAND (AP) - The Oregon Court of Appeals has decided to reconsider a lawsuit against the state that was dismissed in April over its decision last year to remove the gray wolf from

the endangered species

The decision Tuesday means environmentalists will have another chance to argue for a judicial review of the delisting decision, which they say was premature. They may also challenge the validity of House Bill 4040, the controversial new law that prompted the court to toss

the case. The bill was among the most controversial issues this year at the Legislature. It was crafted to block the lawsuit by upholding the delisting decision into state law and therefore render moot the request for judicial review, which environmentalists say could be unconstitutional.

State officials did not immediately respond for comment.

Prosecutor: Spokane police officer justified in shooting man

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) — The Spokane County Prosecutor's Office says a Spokane police officer was justified in shooting a man who was pointing a BB gun at him at a motel.

The Spokesman-Review reports the prosecutor's office said Tuesday it was reasonable for Officer Shane Phillips to use deadly force on May 2.

Authorities say Aaron Johnson had called 911 several times to say a roommate was threatening him with weapons.



Phillips and Officer Stephen Anderson went to Johnson's room and took cover in the hallway when confronted with the realistic-looking gun.

Prosecutors say Johnson followed into the hallway with the weapon in a shooting position. Phillips told Johnson to stop and get on the floor, and fired when Johnson continued approaching him.

Phillips shot Johnson multiple times. Johnson was treated at a Spokane hospital and jailed four days later on assault charges.

Group claims to have sabotaged lumber mill's logs

EUGENE (AP) — A lumber mill west of Eugene has been on high alert since learning that an environmental group may have put metal spikes inside some of its logs.

The Register-Guard reports that some environmentalists turned to such tactics during logging debates in the 1990s. They'd pound the spikes into live trees, making them potentially dangerous for loggers to cut down.

A group called SAP claimed on an Earth First! website that it placed spikes in logs at the Swanson Brothers mill on June 11.

Swanson Brothers president Larry Konnie says the mill operated as usual for two days before learning about SAP's claim. He says no one has found any spikes.

The editor of Earth First! Newswire says the people behind the website don't know who is involved with SAP.

Corrections

The East Oregonian works hard to be accurate and sincerely regrets any errors. If you notice a mistake in the paper, please call 541-966-0818.

FAST () REGONIAN

Founded Oct. 16, 1875 —

211 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton 541-276-2211 333 E. Main St., Hermiston 541-567-6211 Office hours: Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed major holidays

www.eastoregonian.com

To subscribe, call 1-800-522-0255 or go online to www.eastoregonian.com and click on 'Subscribe'

East Oregonian (USPS 164-980) is published daily except Sunday, Monday and Dec. 25, by the EO Media Group, 211 S.E. Byers Ave. Pendleton, OR 97801. Periodicals postage paid at Pendleton, OR. Postmaster: send address changes to East Oregonian, 211 S.E. Byers Ave. Pendleton, OR 97801. Copyright © 2016, EO Media Group

Subscriber services: For home delivery, vacation stops or delivery concerns: 1-800-522-0255

Didn't receive your paper? Call 1-800-522-0255 before noon Tuesday through Friday or before 10 a.m. Saturday for same-day redelivery

	SUBSCRIPTION RATES	<u> </u>
	Local home delivery	Savings off cover price
EZPay	\$14.50	41 percent
52 weeks	\$173.67	41 percent
26 weeks	\$91.86	38 percent
13 weeks	\$47.77	36 percent
*EZ Pay = one-year rate	with a monthly credit or	debit card/check charge

Single copy price: \$1 Tuesday through Friday, \$1.50 Saturday

Advertising Director: Jennine Perkinson 541-278-2683 • jperkinson@eastoregonian.com

Multimedia Consultants

- Jeanne Jewett 541-564-4531 • jjewett@eastoregonian.com
- · Terri Briggs
- 541-278-2678 tbriggs@eastoregonian.com · Dayle Stinsor
- 541-966-0806 dstinson@eastoregonian.com · Stephanie Newsom
- 541-278-2687 snewsom@eastoregonian.com
- Audra Workman 541-564-4538 • aworkman@eastoregonian.com
- · Chris McClellan
- 541-966-0802 cmcclellan@eastoregonian.com · Amanda Jacobs
- 541-278-2863 ajacobs@eastoregonian.com

Production Manager: Mike Jensen 541-215-0824 • mjensen@eastoregonian.com

AccuWeather.com Forecast TODAY **SATURDAY SUNDAY** Partly sunny and Mostly cloudy, a Mostly cloudy, Partly sunny and Not as warm with a nice pleasant shower or two shower or two breezy and cool PENDLETON TEMPERATURE FORECAST 80° 55° 82° 58° **78°** 56° 71° **52°** 68° **52°** 84° 57° 85° 61° 83° 59° **57° 75°** 57° Seattle **ALMANAC** Spokane 73/58 Wenatchee 74/54 81/60 **PENDLETON**

through 3 p.m. yesterday **TEMPERATURE** HIGH LOW Yesterday 86 <u>Normals</u> 107° (2007) 38° (1932) **PRECIPITATION** 24 hours ending 3 p.m 0.00' Month to date Normal month to date 0.05

6.52 Year to date Last year to date 5.00' Normal year to date 7.66 **HERMISTON**

through 3 p.m. yesterday				
TEMPERATURE				
	HIGH	LOW		
Yesterday	80°	58°		
Normals	86°	57°		
Records	108° (1968)	42° (2012)		
PRECIPITATION				
24 hours ending 3 p.m.		0.00"		
Month to data		0.00"		

necoras	100 (1200)	12 (2012)		
PRECIPITA	TION			
24 hours end	ling 3 p.m.	0.00"		
Month to da	te	0.00"		
Normal month to date		0.04"		
Year to date		4.64"		
Last year to o	date	3.16"		
Normal year to date		5.77"		
SUN AND MOON				

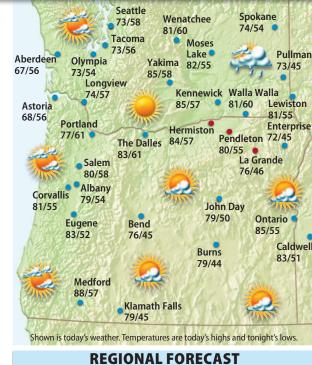
Sunrise today 5:13 a.m. Sunset tonight 8:47 p.m. Moonrise today 7:52 a.m. 10:15 p.m. Full Last New

July 19

July 11

July 26

Aug 2



Coastal Oregon: Clouds giving way to some sun today, but sunny to partly cloudy in

the south.

Eastern and Central Oregon: Partly sunny and beautiful today. Mainly clear tonight. Western Washington: Clouds giving way to some sun today. Increasing amounts of

clouds tonight.

Idaho border and in the mountains today; mostly sunny elsewhere. Cascades: Partly sunny today, Partly cloudy tonight. Partly sunny tomorrow

Eastern Washington: A shower near the

Northern California: Low clouds followed by sunshine at the coast today; plenty of sunshine elsewhere.

REGIONAL CITIES Today Hi Lo W Thu. Lo W Astoria 68 56 pc 65 42 pc 45 pc 52 s 44 pc 83 50 pc Baker City 76 79 50 pc Bend **Brookings** 64 79 45 pc Enterprise 72 80 52 pc 52 s 52 pc 56 c 55 pc 83 78 Eugene Heppner 84 79 79 57 50 pc 45 pc 46 pc John Day Klamath Falls 82 50 s La Grande 42 pc 57 pc Meacham 73 78 52 pc 57 pc 53 pc 55 pc 55 pc Medford 88 Newport 63 61 53 c 55 sh North Bend 65 Ontario 61 pc 58 pc 84 80 77 57 55 61 Pasco 85 عر 50 c 50 c Pendleton 82 72 pc pc Portland 46 58 54 50 pc 59 c Redmond 80 80 72 Salem 57 pc Spokane 74 рс 76 43 pc 59 pc Vancouver 60 c 62 pc 57 pc 60 p Walla Walla 83 Yakima 85

WORLD CITIES Thu

	iouay				miu.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	
Beijing	94	66	S	94	71	рс	
long Kong	90	84	t	92	84	t	
erusalem	85	68	S	86	68	S	
ondon.	68	57	рс	69	59	рс	
Mexico City	73	53	t	75	54	t	
Noscow	69	57	C	66	52	C	
aris	71	53	рс	76	58	S	
Rome	84	68	S	87	68	S	
Seoul	79	69	sh	82	70	рс	
Sydney	63	56	рс	65	54	sh	
okyo	82	74	рс	88	74	рс	

WINDS (in mph) Today Thursday Boardman WSW 4-8 WSW 7-14 W 6-12 W 7-14 Pendleton

UV INDEX TODAY 3 5 **3** 7 **3** 7 **3** 5 **3** 2

8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m. **0-2**, Low 3-5, Moderate 8-10. Very High; 11+. Extreme The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ num-

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2016

Classified & Legal Advertising

1-800-962-2819 or 541-278-2678 classifieds@eastoregonian.com or legals@eastoregonian.com

 To submit news tips and press releases: • call 541-966-0818 • fax 541-276-8314 • email news@eastoregonian.com

email community@eastoregonian.com or call Tammy Malgesini at 541-564-4539 or Renee Struthers in at 541-966-0818.

To submit community events, calendar items and Your EO News:

 To submit engagements, weddings and anniversaries. email rstruthers@eastoregonian.com or visit www.eastoregonian.

com/community/announcements To submit a Letter to the Editor: mail to Managing Editor Daniel

Wattenburger, 211 S.E. Byers Ave. Pendleton, OR 97801 or email editor@eastoregonian.com. To submit sports or outdoors information or tips:

541-966-0838 • sports@eastoregonian.com COMMERCIAL PRINTING

NATIONAL	WEATH	ER TO	DAY	
Shown are noon positions of weather systems	s and precipitation	n. Temperatu	ıre bands are l	nighs for the day.
	finnipeg 3/55	C.	Montreal 85/68	
Billings - 79/53	Minneapolis 85/69	Detroit 91/71	• Toronto 90/68	
San Francisco 67/55 Denver 93/57	Chicago 90/70 Kansas City 93/76		Washin 92/77	New York 92/76 gton
Los Angeles 77/64	William Will		tlanta B/73	1884 x 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
• Chihuáhua 95/64 Mo • 10'	96/80 96/80 onterrey	X .	Miar 92/8	

National Summary: Locally drenching storms will affect the Southeast and Midwest today with severe weather over the central and northern Plains. Storms will frequent the northern Rockies with spotty storms farther south.

warm front stationary front

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states) Low 30° in Bodie State Park, Calif. High 111° in Needles, Calif.

-10s -0s 0s 10s 20s 30s 40s 50s 60s 70s 80s 90s

NATIONAL CITIES Today Today Thur. Hi Lo W Hi Lo W Hi Lo W Hi Lo W Albuquerque Louisville 96 67 95 66 pc 90 75 t 89 77 t 73 t 74 pc 73 t 79 t 80 pc 81 s 79 s 67 t Memphis Atlanta 88 76 t 74 t 74 t 92 Atlantic City 86 91 **Baltimore** Milwaukee 85 68 t 80 64 t 77 t 81 t 76 t Billings 82 94 90 82 57 pc 77 pc 53 Minneapolis Birmingham 89 76 t Nashville 90 76 62 pc 81 pc 76 pc 95 82 57 New Orleans 96 92 70 s New York City Boston 79 t 71 t 70 t 79 t 71 t 72 t 76 pc 72 pc 76 s 68 t Charleston, SC 97 97 83 Oklahoma City 98 Charleston, WV Omaha 90 86 78 pc 83 s Chicago Philadelphia 94 78 t 72 pc 79 pc 57 s 71 t 77 s Cleveland 92 99 72 pc 107 83 Portland, ME Dallas 80 s 60 pc 59 pc 86 71 t 75 t 51 pc 58 pc 70 s 73 t 56 t Denvei 88 Providence 93 Detroit Raleigh Rapid City El Paso 101 100 76 pc 85 airbanks 69 77 84 60 r Fargo 63 t Sacramento 86 56 s 75 pc 80 pc 73 t 75 s 74 s 80 s 78 t 64 s 79 t 70 s Honolulu 86 96 St. Louis 92 Salt Lake City 90 Houston 63 pc 55 pc 65 pc 55 pc 59 sh San Diego San Francisco Indianapolis 86 74 t 72 67 72 67 acksonville 76 pc 79 s 71 s Kansas City 93 94 Seattle 73 58 pc 66 77 s Las Vegas Little Rock 104 79 s 81 s 100 77 pc 80 pc 96 Washington, DC 95

79 65 pc Los Angeles 77 64 pc Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

Wichita

101 79 s