

AccuWeather.com Forecast. TODAY: Mostly cloudy, a shower; cool. SATURDAY: Mostly cloudy with a few showers. SUNDAY: Cloudy, showers around; cool. MONDAY: A few morning showers. TUESDAY: Partly sunny. PENDING TEMPERATURE FORECAST: 64° 43° 66° 43° 66° 49° 62° 48° 66° 45°. HERMISTON TEMPERATURE FORECAST: 72° 46° 72° 44° 74° 54° 68° 50° 73° 49°.

ALMANAC

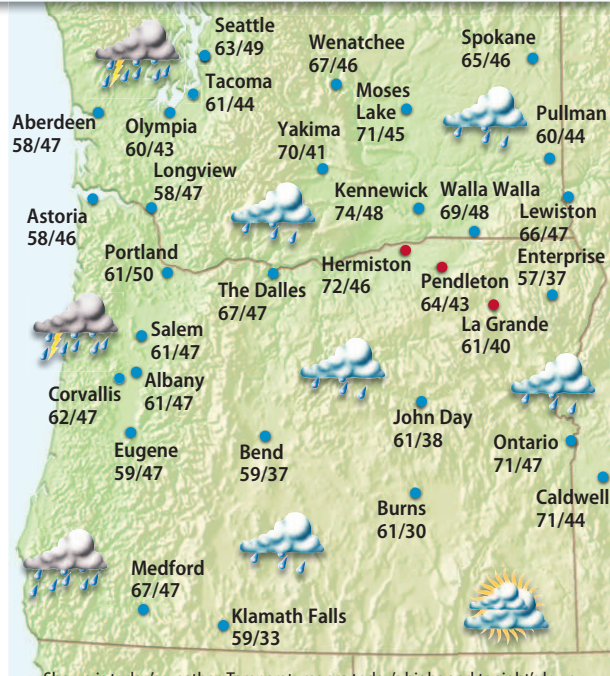
Table with 2 columns: TEMPERATURE (HIGH, LOW) and PRECIPITATION (24 hours ending 3 p.m., Month to date, Normal month to date, Year to date, Last year to date, Normal year to date).

HERMISTON

Table with 2 columns: TEMPERATURE (HIGH, LOW) and PRECIPITATION (24 hours ending 3 p.m., Month to date, Normal month to date, Year to date, Last year to date, Normal year to date).

SUN AND MOON

Table with 2 columns: Sunrise today, Sunset tonight, Moonrise today, Moonset today, Full, Last, New, First.



REGIONAL FORECAST

Coastal Oregon: Showers today, except rain tapering to a couple of showers across the north. Eastern and Central Oregon: Mostly cloudy today with a couple of showers; however, dry in the south. Western Washington: Mostly cloudy today; a couple of showers and a thunderstorm, but rain at the coast. Eastern Washington: Mostly cloudy today; a passing shower in the mountains and toward the Cascades. Cascades: Mostly cloudy today. Thunder showers; arriving during the afternoon in the south. Northern California: Some sun today with a shower; cool. Windy in the interior mountains.

REGIONAL CITIES

Table with 2 main columns: Today and Sat. Each with sub-columns for Hi, Lo, W (Wind). Lists cities like Astoria, Baker City, Bend, Brookings, Burns, etc.

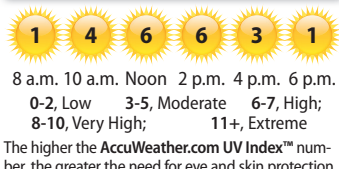
WORLD CITIES

Table with 2 main columns: Today and Sat. Each with sub-columns for Hi, Lo, W. Lists cities like Beijing, Hong Kong, Jerusalem, London, Mexico City, Moscow, Paris, Rome, Seoul, Sydney, Tokyo.

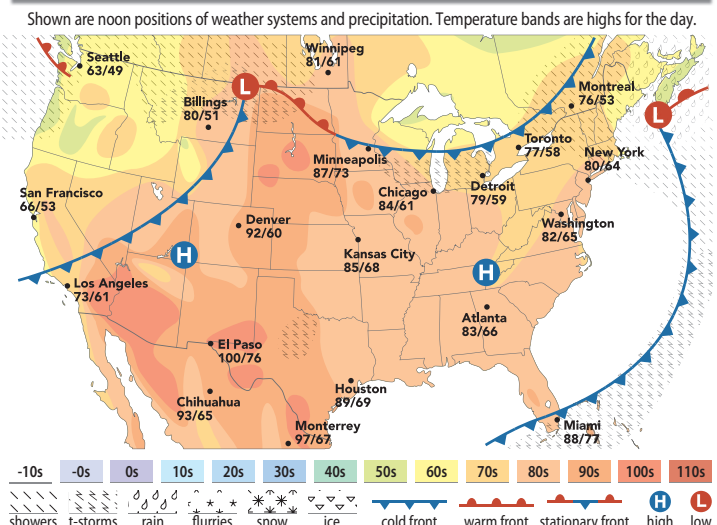
WINDS

Table with 2 columns: Today and Saturday. Lists Boardman and Pendleton with wind directions and speeds.

UV INDEX TODAY



NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY



National Summary: Heat and sunshine will build over the middle of the nation as cooler air spreads over the Northwest with rain today. Storms will dot Florida and the Upper Midwest, while rain grazes eastern New England.

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states) High 106° in Needles, Calif. Low 29° in Bellemont, Ariz.

NATIONAL CITIES

Table with 2 main columns: Today and Sat. Each with sub-columns for Hi, Lo, W. Lists cities like Albuquerque, Atlanta, Atlanta City, Baltimore, Billings, Birmingham, Boise, Boston, Charleston, SC, Charleston, WV, Chicago, Cleveland, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, El Paso, Fairbanks, Fargo, Honolulu, Houston, Indianapolis, Jacksonville, Kansas City, Las Vegas, Little Rock, Los Angeles, Louisville, Memphis, Miami, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Nashville, New Orleans, New York City, Oklahoma City, Omaha, Philadelphia, Phoenix, Portland, ME, Providence, Raleigh, Rapid City, Reno, Sacramento, St. Louis, Salt Lake City, San Diego, San Francisco, Seattle, Tucson, Washington, DC, Wichita.

EAST OREGONIAN logo and address information: 211 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton 541-276-2211. Office hours: Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Website: www.eastoregonian.com.

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: Local home delivery Savings off cover price. Single copy price: \$1 Tuesday through Friday, \$1.50 Saturday.

Advertising Director: Marissa Williams 541-278-2669 • adirector@eastoregonian.com. Advertising Services: Laura Jensen 541-966-0806 • ljensen@eastoregonian.com. Multimedia Consultants: Terri Briggs 541-278-2678 • tbriggs@eastoregonian.com. Danni Halladay 541-278-2683 • dhalladay@eastoregonian.com. Jeanne Jewett 541-564-4531 • jjewett@eastoregonian.com. Dayle Stinson 541-278-2670 • dstinson@eastoregonian.com. Angela Treadwell 541-966-0827 • atreadwell@eastoregonian.com. Audra Workman 541-564-4538 • aworkman@eastoregonian.com.

Classified & Legal Advertising 1-800-962-2819 or 541-278-2678. Classifieds@eastoregonian.com or legals@eastoregonian.com. NEWS: To submit news tips and press releases: call 541-966-0818. To submit community events, calendar items and Your EO News: email community@eastoregonian.com or call Tammy Malgesini at 541-564-4539 or Renee Struthers in at 541-966-0818. 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 Production Manager: Mike Jensen 541-215-0824 • mjensen@eastoregonian.com.

Oregon Senate approves \$8.2B education budget

By PARIS ACHEN Capital Bureau

SALEM — The Oregon Senate voted 25-to-5 Thursday to approve an \$8.2 billion state education budget for the next two years.

Before their vote, multiple senators expressed hope that they would be able to enhance that amount by the end of the session. The \$8.2 billion is greater than what Gov. Kate Brown proposed in the face of a \$1.4 billion state revenue shortfall.

"This is a remarkable place to be at this point in session," said Sen. Sara Gelser, D-Corvallis. "Like others have said, I hope we are able to come back and do more. I know that our schools need more."

Democrats in the Legislature are working on a revenue reform package that recently caught a wind of momentum when a prominent business coalition made up of Associated Oregon Industries and the Oregon Business Council showed support.

The education budget is the first and one of the largest budgets the Legislature will consider before session's end July 10. The spending plan consists of \$7.68 billion from the general fund, \$452.9 million in lottery proceeds and \$63 million in recreational marijuana tax revenue.

The plan exceeds the existing two-year budget by 11.2 percent, said Sen. Rod Monroe, D-Portland. Education advocates, including the Oregon School Boards Association, have said the amount fails to account for schools' increasing expenses related to bargained salaries and the rising cost of providing health insurance and pension benefits.

A group of demonstrators made up of union members and others jeered at members of the Ways and Means Committee earlier this week as they filed into a meeting room to vote on the budget. The protestors' main message was that \$8.2 billion is not enough.

"This budget is based on known existing resources. If we had gone above it at this time would have been taking money from community colleges from universities from mental health ... from public safety," Monroe said. "That would be imprudent certainly, with no resources. ... Right now, this is the best we can do."

Sen. Tim Knopp, R-Bend, said he had to vote no on the budget. "I made a commitment to school districts that I would not support anything less than \$8.4 billion. ... It is my hope the other side of aisle will get serious about significant spending reforms that will allow Republicans to get to new and enhanced revenue."

A "breakthrough" revenue plan offered by Sen. Mark Hass, D-Beaverton, and House Speaker Tina Kotek, D-Portland, could bring the education budget up to \$8.5 billion, according to Kotek's office.

The additional money could be approved in the Legislature's end-of-session bill, dubbed the "Christmas tree" bill. Rowen told reporters Thursday she would like to see any additional school funding go toward career technical education, funding a high school graduation initiative, Measure 98, approved by voters in November and decreasing class sizes.

The Capital Bureau is a collaboration between EO Media Group and Pamplin Media Group.



At the Capitol

Democrats' tax plan has the votes to pass

By CLAIRE WITHYCOMBE Capital Bureau

SALEM — A proposal from Democrats to raise \$900 million through new taxes has Gov. Kate Brown's approval, but it's been panned by the GOP and its unclear whether the plan has enough support to move forward.

With about a month to go before the Legislature adjourns, Sen. Mark Hass, D-Beaverton, and Speaker of the House Tina Kotek, D-Portland, have a plan to create a new tax on certain businesses and curtail certain costs associated with state employees, public services and the public pension system.

The proposal would temporarily increase corporate income taxes in 2017 and 2018, which would raise \$900 million. The corporate income tax would be repealed in 2019 and replaced with a corporate activity tax on businesses with annual sales of at least \$3 million. Businesses with sales less than \$3 million would pay a flat fee of \$250.

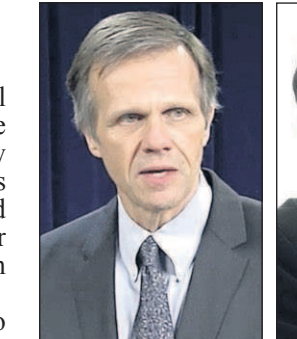
Legislation on new taxes requires a three-fifths majority approval in both the House and Senate.

Although Kotek said Wednesday that "momentum (was) building to go forward with revenue reform this session," in a statement, a spokesman for Senate Republicans doubted there were sufficient votes to pass the proposal.

"The Speaker of the House will not get away with holding this building hostage for a resurrection of Measure 97," said Senate Republicans spokesman Jonathan Lockwood, referencing a 2016 ballot measure to raise corporate taxes, "the (Democrats) do not have the legally required votes to pass it."

Lawmakers have been publicly discussing possible changes to the state's tax structure since the long session began in February, in the wake of the failure of Measure 97, which would have created a gross receipts tax on certain corporations with more than \$25 million in annual sales.

State Rep. Cliff Bentz, R-Ontario, the co-vice chair of the Legislature's bicameral committee on



Mark Hass and Tina Kotek

tax reform, indicated his displeasure with the proposal in a statement, saying it was "heavy on new taxes and light on structural spending reform."

"House Republicans are not willing to hand out more of their money to bail out a broken system, which is what this latest plan would do," Bentz said.

Kotek issued a statement Thursday saying that both business and labor groups, as well as Democrats and Republicans, had weighed in on the state's "structural budget problems." The compromise — House Democrats and Hass had earlier in the session floated differing versions of a similar tax structure — was developed with input from businesses, Kotek said.

"This is a moment that requires statesmanship, and I believe we have leaders in every caucus in the legislature," Kotek said. "That's why I'm hopeful that despite the rhetoric, some of my Republican colleagues will come forward and help us seize the opportunity."

A spokesman for Brighter Oregon, a coalition of business groups, said Thursday that tax reform was "needed" but time was running out for "thorough review" of a tax on gross sales receipts, such as the one proposed by Hass and Kotek.

Sandra McDonough, president and CEO of the Portland Business Alliance, which is a part of Brighter Oregon, also said that there wasn't enough time left to make major changes.

"With four weeks left, we just don't see how you can move this to get the bipartisan support and to make sure it doesn't get referred," McDonough said.

McDonough reiterated the coalition's position that they'd prefer the legislature lead with cost containment. A proposal to bend the state's cost curve, unveiled by influential lawmakers on the legislature's budget-writing committee this week, drew criticism from some Republicans, who called the proposed measures insufficient.

In a press conference Thursday, Gov. Brown, a Democrat, said she was "very pleased" to see the tax proposal, the most recent in a series of potential changes and tweaks to the state's tax structure in the face of a \$1.4 billion gap between state revenues and expenses in the next two-year budget.

However, Brown acknowledged that she did not know whether there were sufficient votes to get it through the legislative process.

"I honestly do not know whether the votes are there at this point in time," said Brown. "But what is most important is that there is a conversation happening, a level of cooperation and coordination that hasn't happened in a really long time."

Brown said she was meeting with legislators on both sides of the aisle, as well as certain businesses and business associations, in an

effort to move the discussion forward.

Last month, Democratic leadership touted a statement signed by the Technology Association of Oregon and the Oregon Bioscience Association, which indicated the signatories — including high-profile companies like Genentech, Nike and Zappos — were "committed to working with legislators and the Governor to build a comprehensive plan that works for Oregon and look forward to a continued collaboration."

"Business engagement is needed to help shape a solution in a way that continues to fuel economic growth, while at the same time provide more stability for the state budget and essential public services," the statement said.

Brown said she felt having a specific proposal from two key Democrats — the Speaker of the House and Hass, the chair of revenue and tax committees — advanced the ball.

"What you have now is a meeting of the minds between key leaders," Brown said.

"My goal is to work with businesses and organizations in the business community that want to be engaged," Brown said.

Brown said it is too early to start calling for a special legislative session to resolve the revenue issues.

Union groups are prepared to go to the ballot in November of 2018, should the push to increase taxes fail at the Legislature.

Corrections The East Oregonian's June 8 editorial "BPA a public project that actually works," incorrectly noted who operates the Columbia River dams. The Army Corps of Engineers runs the dams and the Bonneville Power Association markets and transmits the energy produced by them. 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.

M-F DRIVE-IN FM/AM RADIO SOUND. GATES OPEN AT 7:30 P.M. SHOWTIME AT DUSK. Now Open Fri. thru Wed. June 9th to 14th. DIARY OF A WIMPY KID. (PG). PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN. (PG13). Always two movies for the price of one! 938-4327 www.m-fdriveintheatre.com Fri. • Sat. • Sun. Adults \$7, Children 11 & Under \$2