

Legislature adjourns contentious session

By KRISTENA HANSEN
Associated Press

SALEM — The Oregon Legislature has adjourned the 2017 session—a contentious, nearly six-month period that saw lawmakers pass a range of new laws including a major transportation infrastructure package, restrictions on guns and tobacco, expanded health care for undocumented immigrants, mandated cost-free abortions and a balanced 2017-19 budget.

The session officially wrapped up Friday by a vote in both chambers to adjourn “Sine Die,” a Latin phrase marking the end of their time in Salem for the year. With the constitutionally-required deadline of July 10, adjournment came three days ahead of schedule.

It began in early February when the state’s budget hole stood at \$1.8 billion, but progress stalled early on due to gridlock between Democrats and Republicans over a tax hike on businesses that resembled labor unions’ Measure 97 and ultimately failed late last month.

While lawmakers eventually balanced the state’s \$21 billion operating budget and passed several major policies, changes to the state’s pension system, tax structure and health care plans, among

other things, were delayed for another year.

That may ignite ballot fights next year by special interests, including the same labor unions who backed Measure 97, while new legislation such as the transportation package and a multimillion-dollar health care tax to fund Medicaid may also be derailed by voters in 2018.

“We began the session with the most aggressive agenda in my legislative career,” Senate President Peter Courtney, the Legislature’s longest-serving member, said in a statement. “We had some satisfying wins. We structurally changed key ways in which we budget. We enacted a budget-saving provider tax. We passed the largest transportation plan in state history. We also had losses. We did not reach an agreement on (pension) reform. We did not reform our revenue system. At best, our successes are tempered by disappointment.”

Last month the Democratic-controlled Legislature approved a record-\$8.2 billion funding package for Oregon’s public school system — up 11 percent from the previous biennium. For most of the state’s 200 or so districts, it’s enough money to keep current services going. But others say they needed at

least another \$200 million to avoid scaling back programs and up to 1,500 staff positions mostly through normal attrition and retirements.

A \$670 million-tax package on hospitals and insurers was also passed last month to close a major chunk of the budget deficit, spare the shuttering of a mental health hospital in Junction City and maintain health coverage for thousands of Medicaid recipients. That package, however, may be thrown in limbo should three Republican lawmakers succeed in referring it to the ballot.

If they do, voters would decide its fate during a special election in January — a last-minute maneuver by Democrats that exacerbated tensions in the final days with Republicans, who blasted it as an attempt to sway the outcome.

“Democrats voted to rob us of our referendum rights and they will be hijacking future elections with voter suppression enshrined in state law,” said Senate Republican Minority Leader Ted Ferrioli. “Republicans have a great deal to be upset with this session ... (Democrats) also passed the most extreme abortion funding law in the nation to force taxpayers to pay against their will for other people’s late-term and

sex-selective abortions.”

Ferrioli was referring to this week’s passage of a several bills concerning undocumented residents amid President Donald Trump’s immigration crackdown attempts, such as strengthening Oregon’s sanctuary laws and funding health care for more than 14,000 Oregon children who were brought to the U.S. illegally. Undocumented residents will also be able to access cost-free abortions and other reproductive care under another bill that mandates local insurance companies to cover abortions and other services at no cost to the patient.

“The message of this legislative session is this: In Oregon, Democrats are fighting to improve the lives of everyone who calls this great state home,” said House Majority Leader Jennifer Williamson.

House Republican Minority Leader Mike McLane says the session will be marked by lack of leadership.

“Passage of the transportation package was among few positive highlights this session,” McLane said. “In the end, the 2017 session will be remembered more for missed opportunities and our failure to get our state’s financial house in order.”

Lawmakers approve state REAL ID bill

By PARIS ACHEN
Capital Bureau

SALEM — A bill to give Oregonians a voluntary path to upgrade their state-issued driver’s license or ID card to federal standards is headed to Gov. Kate Brown for a signature.

The bill was sponsored by Sen. Bill Hansell (R-Athens) and Rep. Greg Barreto (R-Cove).

The House of Representatives voted 56-to-1 to pass Senate Bill 374 Thursday. The Senate passed the bill 28-to-2 June 26.

The upgraded identification will be necessary as soon as 2018 to board domestic commercial flights and enter any federal facility, including Bonneville Dam or a federal court house. Without compliant state-issued ID, travelers will instead have to use a passport or other federally approved form of ID.

The bill will keep the state’s “engines of travel

and commerce going,” said Rep. Mike Nearman, R-Independence.

The Oregon Legislature long resisted more stringent requirements by the federal government for state identification cards, known as REAL ID.

The state Legislature passed a law in 2009 that prohibits state officials from spending money to comply with the federal law unless the federal government reimburses the state for the cost. Lawmakers also had privacy concerns about some of the federal requirements.

The state already has received three extensions for complying with the law. The last extension expires Oct. 10. State officials have said Oregon would be unlikely to receive another extension without passing the bill.

Under the bill, the earliest Oregonians will be able to obtain a REAL ID is July 1, 2020, Nearman said.



Hansell



Barreto

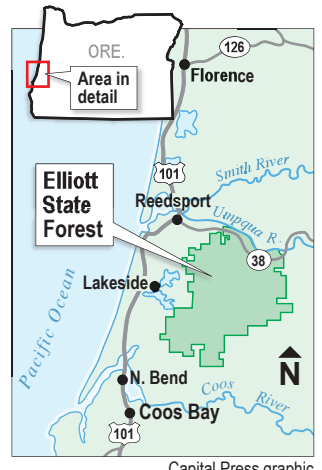
Timber company sues state over nixed sale of Elliott

By CLAIRE WITHYCOMBE
Capital Bureau

SALEM — A Roseburg timber company is suing the Department of State Lands and the State Land Board for about \$3.3 million for backing out of the sale of the Elliott State Forest.

Lone Rock Resources, which until May was positioned to buy an 82,500-acre swath of the state forest near the southwest Oregon coast for \$220.8 million, claims that when the state canceled its plan to sell the forest, it “materially (breached) the agreement and understandings of the parties.”

The Elliott is a state trust land, which means that the state is required to generate revenue from it for the Common School Fund, an



Capital Press graphic

endangered species, the state struggled to make money off the land.

So the land board — the governor, secretary of state, and treasurer — sought to sell it to a private or public entity and embarked on a detailed process to try to find a buyer.

Last fall, Lone Rock was the sole company to propose buying the forest for the price the state set: \$220.8 million.

The company alleges it spent about \$1.3 million to comply with the protocol the state had set up for selling the forest, and seeks that amount in damages, plus interest, as well as lost opportunity damages of \$2 million.

The company also argues that it was reasonable to assume that the state would comply with its obligations

to make money from the Common School Fund land, which are laid out in the state’s constitution.

Since Lone Rock submitted a plan for buying the forest last fall, political opposition to the sale mounted until the State Land Board withdrew from the sale process altogether in May.

The Department of State Lands, through a spokeswoman, said that it does not comment on current or possible litigation.

On Friday, the Oregon Legislature approved about \$100 million in bonding to buy a part of the forest and decouple it from its Common School Fund obligations, reflecting the suggestion of Oregon Gov. Kate Brown, the chair of the land board.

Iraq veteran detained by immigration officials

PORTLAND (AP) — A Portland veteran who served in Iraq has been detained by federal immigration authorities and is being held at a detention center in Tacoma, Washington.

Rose Riley, an Immigrations and Customs Enforcement spokeswoman, told *The Oregonian/OregonLive* on Friday that 41-year-old Chong Hwan Kim was detained because of a recent first-degree arson conviction.

Kim arrived in the United States at age 5

from South Korea with his family.

He was warned by a judge after his latest conviction that his immigration status could be in jeopardy if he got into more legal trouble.

KOIN-TV also reported on Kim’s detention and says he suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder.

Court records show Kim has been convicted of multiple crimes in the past five years, including robbery, burglary and arson.

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.

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AccuWeather.com Forecast

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Very warm with plenty of sun	Plenty of sunshine	Sunny and pleasant	Sunny and beautiful	Plenty of sunshine

PENDLETON TEMPERATURE FORECAST

96°	63°	93°	63°	87°	55°	87°	57°	92°	59°
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HERMISTON TEMPERATURE FORECAST

100°	67°	96°	67°	90°	59°	91°	62°	95°	63°
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ALMANAC

PENDLETON
through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	98°	63°
Normals	87°	57°
Records	104° (1908)	38° (1893)

PRECIPITATION
24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.00"
Month to date 0.00"
Normal month to date 0.07"
Year to date 11.30"
Last year to date 6.47"
Normal year to date 7.64"

HERMISTON
through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	101°	62°
Normals	87°	57°
Records	107° (1968)	40° (1971)

PRECIPITATION
24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.00"
Month to date 0.00"
Normal month to date 0.05"
Year to date 6.59"
Last year to date 4.65"
Normal year to date 5.75"

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	5:14 a.m.
Sunset tonight	8:46 p.m.
Moonrise today	8:22 p.m.
Moonset today	5:02 a.m.

Phase	Full	Last	New	First
	July 8	July 16	July 23	July 30

REGIONAL FORECAST

Coastal Oregon: Areas of low clouds and fog giving way to sun today. A moonlit sky tomorrow.

Eastern Washington: Sunny today. Clear and moonlit tonight. Brilliant sunshine tomorrow.

Cascades: Very warm today with plenty of sunshine. Clear and moonlit tonight.

Northern California: Clouds, then sun at the coast today; sunny in central parts. Partly sunny in the interior mountains.

Eastern and Central Oregon: Mostly sunny and hot today. A moonlit sky tonight. Sunny tomorrow; hot.

Western Washington: Sunny today; however, low clouds followed by sunshine at the coast.

REGIONAL CITIES

	Today			Sun.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Astoria	67	54	pc	67	54	pc
Baker City	94	55	s	89	53	s
Bend	93	54	s	87	53	s
Brookings	65	53	pc	67	54	pc
Burns	98	54	s	94	52	s
Enterprise	94	55	s	89	54	s
Eugene	86	50	s	84	56	s
Heppner	94	59	s	91	60	s
Hermiston	100	67	s	96	67	s
John Day	99	59	s	92	58	s
Klamath Falls	94	51	s	90	50	s
La Grande	95	60	s	90	59	s
Meacham	92	55	s	87	56	s
Medford	97	60	s	93	61	s
Newport	62	50	pc	64	52	pc
North Bend	64	53	pc	66	55	pc
Ontario	104	71	s	101	66	s
Pasco	99	61	s	96	62	s
Pendleton	96	63	s	93	63	s
Portland	85	57	s	81	58	s
Redmond	97	51	s	90	51	s
Salem	86	55	s	84	58	s
Spokane	95	64	s	90	63	s
Ukiah	91	51	s	87	52	s
Vancouver	83	55	s	80	56	s
Walla Walla	98	68	s	94	68	s
Yakima	99	64	s	95	63	s

WORLD CITIES

	Today			Sun.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Beijing	93	76	pc	97	71	s
Hong Kong	86	79	sh	88	82	c
Jerusalem	87	66	s	89	68	s
London	79	63	pc	80	61	c
Mexico City	66	56	t	68	57	t
Moscow	54	50	r	60	51	sh
Paris	90	68	pc	83	62	t
Rome	87	66	s	88	70	s
Seoul	83	76	t	85	74	t
Sydney	64	45	s	63	45	s
Tokyo	87	75	s	87	76	pc

WINDS

(in mph)	Today	Sunday
Boardman	WSW 4-8	WSW 7-14
Pendleton	WNW 4-8	WSW 6-12

UV INDEX TODAY

2 5 7 7 5 2

8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m.

0-2, Low 3-5, Moderate 6-7, High; 8-10, Very High; 11+, Extreme

The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

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NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.

National Summary: Showers and locally heavy, gusty thunderstorms will occur today from northern New England to the lower Mississippi Valley. Less humid air will expand across the Midwest. Much of the West will broil.

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)
High 121° in Palm Springs, Calif. Low 39° in Leadville, Colo.

NATIONAL CITIES

	Today			Sun.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Albuquerque	93	68	t	92	68	pc
Atlanta	89	72	t	88	72	pc
Atlanta City	85	68	pc	80	67	s
Baltimore	90	63	pc	85	65	s
Billings	98	69	s	98	68	pc
Birmingham	90	72	t	91	70	pc
Boise	104	72	s	99	66	s
Boston	86	66	t	85	65	s
Charleston, SC	94	76	t	90	76	t
Charleston, WV	79	59	pc	82	61	s
Chicago	73	62	s	86	67	pc
Cleveland	76	60	pc	82	65	s
Dallas	97	77	s	95	77	pc
Denver	90	61	pc	95	63	pc
Detroit	79	57	pc	83	65	pc
El Paso	97	73	pc	98	73	pc
Fairbanks	78	58	c	73	54	c
Fargo	88	63	s	85	60	pc
Honolulu	87	75	pc	87	75	pc
Houston	95	76	t	94	76	t
Indianapolis	80	60	s	83	68	pc
Jacksonville	97	75	t	93	74	t
Kansas City	89	68	s	91	74	t
Las Vegas	112	89	pc	107	87	t
Little Rock	89	69	c	90	70	pc
Los Angeles	97	69	s	88	69	pc
Louisville	86	66	s	88	71	s
Memphis	91	70	pc	92	72	pc
Miami	90	79	pc	91	81	pc
Millwaukee	76	63	s	83	66	pc
Minneapolis	85	66	s			