

Western Washington: Clouds and some sunny breaks today with a couple of show-

Northern California: A shower and thunder storm around today; snow showers in the mountains accumulating 1-3 inches.

Today Hi Lo W Sun. Hi Lo W 33 sh 15 sf 48 35 c 38 15 c Astoria Baker City 50 37 19 sf 38 t 17 sn Bend 39 45 20 sf 36 c Brookings Burns 35 38 15 c 21 sf 28 sh 37 50 22 c Enterprise Eugene 49 32 c 26 c 28 c 42 29 c 31 c Hermiston 22 sn 12 sf 22 c 16 c John Day 38 La Grande 40 24 sf 40 26 c 21 sf 28 sh 25 sn 28 c 38 50 38 52 Medford 33 sh 34 sh 23 sf 48 51 45 37 c 35 c 48 49 Newport North Bend Ontario 41 23 c 26 c 27 c Pasco 52 45 Pendleton 30 c 33 sh 19 sn 36 c 19 c Portland Redmond 44 30 sh 25 c 35 c 27 sf Salem Ukiah 37 20 sn 36 21 c 50 36 c 49 35 c 32 sh Walla Walla 49 31 c 51 26 sn Yakima **WORLD CITIES**

REGIONAL CITIES

	- 1	oaa	y		Sun.						
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W					
Beijing	59	41	рс	49	25	C					
Hong Kong	75	70	рс	75	68	t					
Jerusalem	69	52	pc	71	53	S					
London	41	37	r	47	38	sh					
Mexico City	78	51	рс	80	53	рс					
Moscow	18	12	C	15	11	sn					
Paris	51	39	r	48	36	r					
Rome	60	42	r	58	45	C					
Seoul	54	38	рс	60	37	r					
Sydney	83	72	S	79	70	рс					
Tokyo	57	48	S	65	56	S					
WINDS											
WINDS											

WNW 4-8 **UV INDEX TODAY**

Today

N 3-6

(in mph)

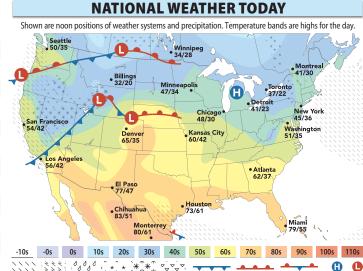
Boardman

Pendleton

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.

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2018



National Summary: Strong winds, rough seas and coastal flooding will continue in the wake of the big storm in the Northeast today. Meanwhile, a storm near the West Coast will begin to push inland with areas of heavy snow.

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states) High 89° in Hollywood, Fla. Low -9° in Ely, Minn

NATIONAL CITIES												
	Т	oday	Sun.				Today		Sun.			
-	Hi	Lo W	Hi	Lo	W		Hi	Lo W	Hi	Lo W		
Albuquerque	67	36 s	62	29		Louisville	54	28 s	56	35 s		
Atlanta	62	37 s	65	42		Memphis	63	39 s	65	48 pc		
Atlantic City	47	36 pc	46	31	pc	Miami	79	55 s	76	57 s		
Baltimore	49	32 pc	49		s	Milwaukee	43	31 s	44	34 s		
Billings Birmingham	32 64	20 c	26 69		sf	Minneapolis Nashville	47 57	34 s 32 s	45	34 sh 39 s		
Boise Boston	38 45	24 sf 34 c	41 42		c pc	New Orleans New York City	71 45	53 s 36 pc	76 47	59 pc		
Charleston, SC Charleston, WV	64 47	38 s 25 s	61 48	37 26	S	Oklahoma City Omaha	62	48 pc 44 s	60 57	45 c 36 c		
Chicago	48	30 s	50	37	-	Philadelphia	46	35 pc	48	31 s		
Cleveland	37	24 s	38	23		Phoenix	75	50 pc	66	45 s		
Dallas	71	55 pc	70	59	t	Portland, ME	42	31 c	41	28 c		
Denver	65	35 s	58	24	pc	Providence	45	34 pc	43	31 pc		
Detroit	41	23 s	41	24	S	Raleigh	55	32 s	54	31 s		
El Paso	77	47 s	73	43		Rapid City	49	25 pc	33	20 sn		
Fairbanks	18	7 sn	22	5	pc	Reno	30	17 sn	39	18 pc		
Fargo	39	32 sn	40	31	r	Sacramento	52	36 t	57			
Honolulu	82	72 r	83	71	pc	St. Louis	59	35 s	60	43 s		
Houston	73	61 pc	74	65	t	Salt Lake City	49	33 sf	37	28 sn		
Indianapolis	49	28 s	52	32	S	San Diego	62	50 sh	63	46 s		
Jacksonville	70	40 s	66	40		San Francisco	54	42 t	58	41 pc		
Kansas City	60	42 s	56	47	c	Seattle	50	35 sh	48	37 c		
Las Vegas	57	41 pc	59	40		Tucson	76	44 s	65	40 s		
Little Rock Los Angeles	60	38 s 42 sh	58	45	C	Washington, DC Wichita	51	35 s 48 pc	51	33 s 41 c		

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain,

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

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East Oregonian (USPS 164-980) is published daily except Sunday, Monday and postal holidays, 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.

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Deduction for business owners blocked

By CLAIRE WITHYCOMBE Capital Bureau

SALEM — After significant debate, the Oregon Friday narrowly passed a measure aimed at blunting the impact of federal tax reforms on state coffers.

Though the bill now goes to the governor for her signature, it faces a potential Constitutional challenge and an initiative petition from the Oregon Small Business Association.

Oregon's income tax code is largely based on the federal code. Tax deductions created by federal tax law are available on state tax returns unless those provisions are specifically disconnected

from Oregon law. Senate Bill 1528 disconnects Oregon law from a federal deduction for owners of so-called "pass-through" businesses, whose business income "passes through" to be claimed on their personal income taxes.

Federal reforms passed in December will allow owners of those businesses — such as sole proprietorships, partnerships, LLCs and S-corporations — to deduct up to 20 percent of their income from their 2018 tax return.

The bill eliminates that deduction from Oregon income taxes, and is expected to result in \$244 million

more in tax dollars in the current two-year budget than if Oregon allowed the new deduction on state income

A Republican lawmaker in the state senate, Sen. Brian Boquist of Dallas, has raised questions about the constitutionality of the process used to pass the measure, which passed the Senate Feb. 23.

Boquist argues that the bill qualifies under the Oregon Constitution as a bill for "raising revenue." If so, it should have originated in the House of Representatives and required a three-fifths majority in each chamber to pass.

Boquist has also raised a question about whether Oregon's unusual "kicker" law would be triggered by the additional revenue from the bill.

The "kicker" requires that if actual personal income tax revenues exceed the amount predicted at the close of the long legislative session by 2 percent, then taxpayers get back the difference.

The passage of SB 1528 "would take us close but not quite over that threshold," state economist Josh Lehner wrote in an email to Boquist last month. The email was shared by Boquist with the EO/Pamplin Capital Bureau last week. "It would effectively eliminate any wiggle room in terms of forecast accuracy and the kicker."

determination, That though, wouldn't officially be made until September 2019, after the close of the two-year budget cycle, and after other new laws passed in the short session have been incorporated into the revenue projections.

Three House Democrats voted against the bill Friday, but the rest of the caucus has framed the bill as a way to prevent a revenue loss by not instituting a giveaway to the wealthy. They say that 61 percent of the deduction's benefit would go to taxpayers who are in the top 5 percent of income earners.

"I support (the bill) because it will allow us to protect those critical investments in Oregon schools, health care and other critical services for families and communities across state," said State Rep. Pam Marsh, D-Ashland, who said she wanted the legislature to move forward on meaningful tax reforms next year, when legislators convene for a long session, during the floor debate over the bill. "... But to simply accept what the federal government has handed to us without consideration of the impact that an additional tax change for business would have on the kids in Oregon schools or

seniors who are counting on critical services would be a

huge mistake.' Oregon's chapter of the National Federation of Independent Business called on Gov. Kate Brown to veto the bill.

"...These sole proprietorships, partnerships, LLCs and S-corps are losing out on tax savings that they would otherwise have to invest in their businesses and their employees," the group said in a statement after the vote.

A spokesman for Brown said in a text message Friday that "as with any other bill. the Governor's Office will review the legislation for legal sufficiency before the Governor considers signing."

And on Thursday, in what it said was a direct response to the legislation, the state's Small Business Association filed an initiative petition called the "Tax Parity Initia-

Net neutrality contracting moves closer to passage

SALEM — A bill to require governmental agencies to contract only with internet providers who practice "net neutrality" is on its way to Gov. Kate Brown's desk for a signature.

The state Senate 21-to-7 to pass House Bill 4155 Thursday, March 2, with bipartisan support. The House approved the bill Feb. 26.

House Majority Leader Rep. Jennifer Williamson, proposed D-Portland, the state regulations to discourage internet companies from blocking, slowing down or charging more for certain content. The Federal

Communications Commission repealed federal rules on net neutrality Dec. 14. The move prompted about 20 states, including Oregon, to sue the federal government to restore the protections Williamson's bill

meant to serve as an incentive to providers to keep the internet open to all Oregonians.

"It's particularly important to small businesses who are trying to create e-commerce," said Sen. Lee Beyer, D-Eugene, who urged passage of the bill on the Senate floor Thursday.

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.

