

# Bill targeting two senators' roles in Oregon GOP may be dead

By **DIRK VANDERHART**  
*Oregon Public Broadcasting*

SALEM — A pair of Republican senators in Oregon appear to be pulling back on a bill that would have impacted two of their colleagues' leadership roles in the state Republican party.

Sens. Lynn Findley, R-Vale, and Bill Hansell, R-Athena, requested on Tuesday, May 18, that a hearing on Senate Bill 865 set for the afternoon be scrapped. There is currently no plan to reschedule.

"I honored the request of the chief co-sponsors of the bill not to hear it today," said Senate Majority Leader Rob Wagner, D-Lake Oswego, who chairs the Senate Rules Committee where the bill was set for a hearing.

SB 865 would have prevented

elected officials at the state level — including governor, secretary of state, state treasurer, labor commissioner, state lawmaker, supreme court or appeals court judge — from serving as an elected officer on the state central committee of a political party. Anyone breaking the law could be fined \$250 per day.

The proposal was a direct result of ongoing tensions among Republicans over the roles of Sens. Dallas Heard, R-Myrtle Creek, and Dennis Linthicum, R-Klamath Falls, in the Oregon GOP. In a February party meeting, Heard was elected chair of the state party. Linthicum was elected treasurer.

Some have worried the lawmakers' role in helping steer the strategies and stances of the party might cause confusion about whether



Heard



Linthicum

their votes in the Senate amounted to an official GOP position.

That was highlighted by a bill to ban the display of nooses in the state that passed the Senate in April. Heard, who has protested the ongoing closure of the Capitol by opposing every bill, left the chamber rather than voting. Linthicum provided the sole "no" vote.

"It made us look very racist by voting no or not showing up or not voting, and that became the lead story, instead of the fact that most

of us agreed," Senate Minority Leader Fred Girod, R-Lyons, told OPB in April.

Hansell said Girod asked for the bill to be pulled.

"We were asked to pull it by our caucus chair, Fred Girod," he said. "From the beginning we wanted it to be on the policy, not the people. The politics of the whole thing began to take on a life of its own. There was never an intent to disrupt the caucus or its unity. Fred's a good leader, doing a superior job and he asked that we pull it and we said yes."

A spokesman for Senate Republicans, Dru Draper, said in an email that the caucus "wanted to move forward united" as the legislative session enters its final six weeks.

Hansell and Findley have said they were asked to introduce the

bill by local Republican groups in three counties. As recently as last week, Hansell asked the state GOP to circulate an opinion piece he wrote explaining his support for the concept.

In the piece, Hansell said the bill was "not about individuals. It's about establishing clear ethical boundaries to which all political parties can agree."

"As your Senator, I feel a deep responsibility to make our government as transparent and accountable to 'We The People' as possible," Hansell said. "That sometimes means doing things that some in my own party won't like."

Indeed, there's been pushback to the proposal. That includes Heard, who sent an email to constituents this week arguing against the bill and asking constituents to testify.

## Oregonians say economy is stacked deck

By **ZANE SPARLING**  
*Pamplin Media Group*

SALEM — Life is unfair — especially when it comes to money.

Only one in five Oregonians says the economic system of the United States is fair for all, according to a new poll by the Oregon Values and Beliefs Center.

The public opinion nonprofit's recent survey also found that nearly seven in 10 state residents rate Oregon's economy as middling-to-lousy, though the other three see things as good-to-great. That might not seem like much to crow about, but it's actually a sign of a sunnier outlook, compared to what polling figures showed when the end of the pandemic was nowhere in sight.

"This is an improvement from a September 2020 DHM Panel survey, when only two in 10 rated conditions as excellent," Oregon Values and Beliefs said in a briefing.

Residents are somewhat

### POLL RESULTS

Here are some of the takeaways from a new poll by the Oregon Values and Beliefs Center:

- 72% say the American economic system favors the rich and powerful, compared with 19% who believe it offers a fair shake and 8% who are unsure. Those earning less than \$50,000 annually (77%) were more likely to see a rigged deck, while a larger share of economic conservatives (34%) believe things are generally even.
- Almost one third (30%) of Oregonians think the state economy is doing good or great, compared to 68% who gave it a poor grade and 2% who were unsure. Democrats (39%) are more likely to give the economy high marks, as are college grads (42%). The middle-aged (72%) and those with no education beyond a high

school diploma (71%) were more likely to pan the economy.

- Slightly less than a quarter (22%) say Oregon's economy is improving, while 39% said it was trending toward equilibrium, 34% said it was getting worse and 4% were unsure. Rural residents (47%) were more likely to see the numbers turning red, while urbanites (31%) were in the black.
- About three in 10 (32%) say the economy is favorable in their town, but the majority (65%) said it's not, with the remaining 3% unsure. Those in the rural-to-suburban exurbs (57%) were more likely to say their community is successful than either town or country dwellers. In general, "exurbs" are urban centers unattached to a main metro area — think McMinnville — as opposed to a "suburb," such as Tigard.

split on whether things are getting better, worse, or just plodding along, per the polling.

Even when examining conditions closer to home, where survey respondents are in general more likely to find a silver lining, only one-third gave a thumbs up

when asked about the economy in their town.

"The cost to live in Oregon has become outrageous," said one survey respondent, identifying as a Republican woman living in suburban Clackamas County. "I think many have learned this and are plan-

ning to move out of the state or start an emergency fund."

OVBC conducted the online survey of 600 Oregonians, who were selected to be statistically representative of state demographics, in early April. The margin of error is 2% to 4% depending on the question.

## Oregon hiring stalls as recovery slows

By **MIKE ROGOWAY**  
*The Oregonian*

SALEM — Oregon added just 2,200 jobs in April — one-tenth as many as in March. That's a worrying sign for the state's economic outlook and parallels a national hiring slowdown.

Oregon's unemployment rate remained steady at 6.0%, according to data released on Tuesday, May 18, from the Oregon Employment Department. That's unchanged from March, making April the first month since the pandemic's outset that the state's jobless rate didn't improve. The national jobless rate was 6.1% last month.

Overall, there are 117,400 fewer jobs in Oregon than in the month before the pandemic hit, a 6% decline.

Government jobs posted the biggest gains in March, at 2,300, which economists said reflected school reopenings. Leisure and hospitality added 2,000 jobs, the next-largest gains. Manufacturing, warehousing and retail all lost hundreds of jobs last month.

Economists across the country are puzzling over the hiring slowdown. A comput-

er-chip shortage has cooled manufacturing by limiting access to key components. Some workers may be cautious about returning to their jobs during the pandemic, and many parents are unable to work while schools are closed or operating on severely reduced schedules.

Employers, though, say some workers are staying away because they can make more from unemployment benefits than they can at certain low-wage jobs. In Oregon, the value of the average weekly jobless benefit is \$16.75 an hour, including a \$300 federal bonus paid each week through Labor Day.

That's above the minimum wage, which ranges from \$11.50 to \$13.50 an hour, depending on region. But it's well below the roughly \$24 an hour that full-time workers average in Oregon.

Regardless of the reason, the May 18 jobs numbers indicate a slowdown in Oregon's economic recovery. Economists are divided over whether it's a signal of more trouble ahead, or if it's a brief pause ahead of the broad reopening now underway as COVID-19 vaccines become prevalent.

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**101 Legal Notices**

**EO-11374 NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING**  
A meeting of the Morrow County Health District Board of Directors will be held on May 24, 2021, 6:30 pm, at the Pioneer Memorial Clinic Conference Room, 130 Thompson Avenue, Heppner, Oregon or by audio/video using Zoom. If you wish to attend by Zoom, please email nicole@mocohd.org to receive further instructions to join the meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021, as proposed by the Morrow County Health District Board. A summary of the budget is presented below. A copy of the budget may be obtained by calling 541-676-2925. This budget was prepared on a basis of accounting that is consistent with the preceding year. This budget is for an annual period and has only one fund.

Financial Summary		
Anticipated Requirements	Adopted Budget This Year 2020-2021	Proposed Budget Next Year 2021-2022
1. Total Personal Services	\$12,317,981	\$13,703,977.00
2. Total Materials and Supplies	3,664,728	4,033,537
3. Total Capital Outlay	1,152,922	492,835
4. Total Debt Service	406,716	343,829
5. Total Contingencies		
6. Total All Other Expenditures and Requirements	1,115,123	1,471,440
7. Unappropriated Amount Reserved for Future Use	-	108,225
<b>8. Total Requirements - add lines 1 - 7</b>	<b>\$18,657,470</b>	<b>\$20,153,843</b>
Anticipated Resources		
9. Total Resources Except Property Taxes	\$16,310,240	\$17,781,325
10. Total Property Taxes Estimated To Be Received	2,225,516	2,372,518
11. Amount Used From Prior Year Cash Reserve	121,714	-
<b>12. Total Resources - add lines 9 - 11</b>	<b>\$18,657,470</b>	<b>\$20,153,843</b>
Estimated Ad Valorem Property Taxes		
13. Total Property Taxes Estimated To Be Received	\$2,225,516	\$2,372,518
14. Plus: Estimated Property Taxes Not to be Received		
A. Loss Due to Constitutional Limits	285,000	295,000
B. Discounts Allowed, Other Uncollected Amounts	77,645	82,501
<b>15. Total Tax Levied - add lines 13, 14A &amp; 14B</b>	<b>\$2,588,161</b>	<b>\$2,750,019</b>
Tax Levies By Type		
16. Permanent Rate Limit Levy (\$/1,000)	.6050	.6050
17. Local Option Taxes (\$/1,000)	.3900	.3900
18. Levy for Bonded Debt or Obligations	0	0

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**101 Legal Notices**

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**204 Automobiles**

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**354 Auction Sales**

**AUCTION!**  
Sunday, May 23, 2021  
80824 Kik Lane, Hermiston  
Auction starts at 11am.  
The preview begins at 9.  
Masks are required and there must be social distancing.

Some of the items for the auction are: Two cars one runs other doesn't, shophsmith, Husqvarna k750 concrete saw, Snapper snow blower excellent condition, scroll saw, tile cutter, Stihl leaf blower, 20 plus Golf carts, collectible shotgun shells, Fine jewelry, marbles, collectible coins, silver dollars mercury dimes and Roosevelt pennies, old radios Redwing crock, St. Louis meat cleaver, cookie jar collection, Fenton glassware, cast iron tractor seats, handmade stagecoach lamp, very collectible 1800s settee and chair. Many more items!

Text FORDSAUCTION to 844-957-2516 to subscribe to our newsletter. For photos and lists go to Fords Auction on Facebook. We accept cash, check, and credit cards. 10% buyer's premium in place. All items are as is. Contact us for consignments and estate sales.  
Ford Bonney: 541-561-5798

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**354 Auction Sales**

**AUCTION NOTICE!!!!**  
Estate Sale  
Sunday, June 6th, 2021  
Bidding starts at 10am SHARP!!!  
Location: 665 W William St, Adams, OR 97810

Columbia River Auction, LLC  
Auctioneer: Paul Kramer  
541-571-5771  
For pictures and listing look up Columbia River Auction LLC on Facebook

This Estate is loaded with top of the line **ANTIQUES!!** Something for everyone.

**360 Garage Sales**

Contractor Estate/Multi-Family Garage Sale. May 21-22, 8am, May 23 10am-2pm. Town & Country Storage 1350 SW Tutuilla Rd, Pendleton.  
**GIANT YARD SALE**  
Household items, tools, furniture etc. Friday 9-5pm, Saturday 9-5. Cash only. 1310 West Elm Ave, Hermiston.

Estate Sale  
Appliances, 07 Harley Night-Train, Buick, Men's clothes, Yard tools. Collectibles, Furniture, Household Items, 1099 E Gladys Hermiston. Fri Sat Sun 5/28-30 9am - 4pm

**MOVING SALE - EVERYTHING GOES!**  
Saturday 5/22 and Sunday 5/23. 10am-6pm. 70092 S. Market Rd., Pendleton OR. One queen size beds, recliner, oak dining room table with 4 chairs, lots of misc.

**Athena City Wide Yard Sales**  
Saturday, May 22nd, 8am-3pm.  
Multiple sales throughout town. Maps will be available Saturday morning at the grocery stores. Multi-Family, Clothes, Collectibles, Furniture, Household Items, Antiques, Tools, Toys. City Wide, Athena.

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**651 Help Wanted**

Heppner CCS is looking for a one-month, temporary Accounting Clerk to perform accounting support tasks such as data entry and filing of accounting records. Requirements: High School Diploma or GED, a valid Driver's License and ability to pass a criminal background check. Apply online at [community-counselingsolutions.org](http://community-counselingsolutions.org). Salary: \$15.67-\$21.92, DOE

**Part-Time Employment**  
CITY OF PILOT ROCK is looking for a part-time park maintenance worker. The position maintains flower beds, shrub beds and pots throughout the City including repairs on small sprinkler systems. Approx 10-20 hours spring & fall, 5-10 hours summer and no work in winter. Hours are flexible and pays \$12.00 hourly.  
For more info and application, [www.cityofpilotrock.org](http://www.cityofpilotrock.org) Pilot Rock, OR. (541)443-2811terri.bacus@cityofpilotrock.org

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