

Bentz fundraising swamps congressional challenger

By GARY A. WARNER
Oregon Capital Bureau

WASHINGTON — U.S. Rep. Cliff Bentz, R-Ontario, has raised 32 times more in campaign contributions than Democrat Joe Yetter in the race for the 2nd Congressional District, according to federal reports.

Bentz received \$124,932 in campaign contributions in April, May and June, according to his quarterly campaign finance filing with the Federal Elections Commission.

The new money brings Bentz's fundraising total for the 2021-22 election cycle to \$913,183. After expenditures, Bentz reports having \$558,204 cash on hand.

Joe Yetter, a retired Army colonel, physician and former associate clinical professor at the University of Washington School of Medicine is the Democratic nominee. He lives in Azalea in Douglas County.

The FEC reports Yetter has raised \$28,614 and spent \$20,344 during the election cycle, leaving \$8,270 in the bank.

Bentz was elected in 2020 to the 2nd Congressional District seat held for two decades by U.S. Rep. Greg Walden, R-Hood River. He's seeking a second two-year term.

The 2nd district currently includes all of Oregon east of



Yasser Marte/East Oregonian

U.S. Rep. Cliff Bentz, R-Ontario, talks with the East Oregonian on July 7, 2022, about the 2nd Congressional District and its future. Bentz has raised 32 times more in campaign contributions than Democrat Joe Yetter in the race for the district, according to federal reports.

the Cascades, and a portion of the southwestern part of the state near Medford. He'll represent the area until the new Congress elected this November is sworn into office next January.

Under redistricting after the 2020 census, a portion of

northern Deschutes County that includes Bend and Redmond was moved into the 5th district, which stretches across the Cascades and into Linn, Marion, Clackamas and Multnomah counties.

The winner of the race between Democrat Jamie

McLeod-Skinner of Terrebonne and Republican Lori Chavez-DeRemer will represent the new 5th district after being sworn into office in January.

The district has the narrowest partisan division of any of the six Oregon congress-

sional districts, with a slight Democratic edge in earlier voting patterns. But national Republicans have put the race on the list of key targets, especially after McLeod-Skinner defeated incumbent U.S. Rep. Kurt Schrader, D-Canby.

The 2nd District remains

overwhelmingly Republican-leaning. It will include most of Eastern and Central Oregon, including Prineville, Madras and La Pine. The new district will also extend farther into southwestern Oregon.

Notable large contributors to Bentz during the most recent period, along with their total contributions through the current elections cycle, include: the National Association of Broadcasters PAC (\$9,000), American Forest Resources Council PAC (\$8,000), combined contributions from Michael and Gina Wheelock of Grayback Forestry in Roseburg (\$6,400), Republican Mainstreet Partnership PAC (\$6,000), Marc Brickmayer, chair of Idaho Forest Group (\$5,900), the Pechanga Band of Indians in Temecula, California (\$5,800), POWERPAC of Edison Electric (\$5,500) Gerald Scott of Eugene, CEO of Elmer's Restaurants (\$5,300), Raymond Lackey of Redmond, an analyst for MST Corp. (\$5,000), National Cattlemen's Beef Assoc. PAC (\$5,000), HuckPAC, created by former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee (\$5,000) and KOCHPAC, created by the conservative Koch family of Kansas (\$3,500).

Yetter's largest outside contribution is \$5,000 for the Democratic Party of Oregon.

MENTAL HEALTH

Oregon's psilocybin therapy likely won't be available until late 2023

By LIZZY ACKER
The Oregonian

SALEM — Some aspects of Oregon's voter-approved legal psilocybin program are underway, but the public might not get a chance to experience the therapy until late next year, according to the head of a nonprofit that supports the program.

During a press conference Thursday, July 14, Sam Chapman, executive director of the Healing Advocacy Fund, said it would likely take some months after the official start of the program on Jan. 2, 2023, for the infrastructure of the nation's first statewide legal psychedelic mushroom program to be fully in place and ready for participants. On its website, Chapman's organization says it's working with experts, researchers and advocates to design the state's psilocybin therapy program.

"We do not anticipate services to be available to the general public until fall, if not winter of 2023," Chapman said. "There's so many things that have to happen after an application or during that period to where we're just not going to be seeing services until later on in 2023."

The Oregon Health Authority, which is developing and will administer the state's psilocybin program, said technically it was possible the services would begin sooner.

"Oregon Psilocybin Services will be adopting rules by Dec. 31, 2022, and will begin accepting applications for licensure on Jan. 2, 2023," said Erica Heartquist, a spokesperson for the Oregon Health Authority. "If licensees meet all of the criteria in statute and rule, we will issue a license to them. If applicants are ready to apply on, or close to, the Jan. 2, 2023, date, services may be available earlier than fall/winter."

"Since we do not know when applicants will be ready to apply, it is difficult to provide an estimated timeline for when services will be available in Oregon," Heartquist added.

But, before clients can enter the doors of a legal psilocybin facility, providers and manufacturers will need

to move through a process that can only begin once the state starts issuing licenses.

First, manufacturers, facilitators, testing labs and service centers all must be licensed.

Oregon Health Authority is accepting applications for facilitator training programs, though there is a possible hitch — these programs may need to be also licensed by Oregon's Higher Education Coordinating Commission, the body that licenses private career schools.

The commission has identified two possible challenges for gaining licensure: the ability of training programs to get insurance and "a restrictive definition of 'qualified instructor.'"

In a statement, the commission said it wants to resolve the questions as fast as possible and in a way that supports licensing and operation of psilocybin facilitator training programs.

The Oregon Health Authority Psilocybin Services Section is encouraging applicants to address any questions with the Higher Education Coordinating Commission but has said in a newsletter that commission licensing is not a prerequisite to getting curriculum approval from the Psilocybin Services Section.

If the licensing of facilitator trainers can be worked out, businesses will still have to be built from the ground up.

Oregon's psilocybin law has clear rules about where a facility can be located. Service centers cannot be within 1,000 feet of a school or in an exclusively residential-zoned neighborhood. Facilities must have secure storage for the substance, and it cannot be sold retail or marketed or consumed off-site.

And, as some Oregon counties consider trying to ban psilocybin facilities within their borders and others have the option to add restrictions, there's an open question of where a facility can be located.

"There's so many aspects that go into running this type of business," Chapman said, "that it will take some additional time for doors to be open to the general public."

Tributes pour forth for Hatfield's centennial

By PETER WONG
Oregon Capital Bureau

SALEM — Three of his successors as Oregon governor, two men whose institutions benefited from his work as a U.S. senator and afterward, and his youngest son all spoke at a centennial celebration of Mark Hatfield, whose 46 years in public office included eight years as governor and 30 years in the Senate.

More than 100 people attended the celebration July 12 at the Oregon Historical Society in Portland. Hatfield was born 100 years ago in the mid-Willamette Valley town of Dallas; he died Aug. 7, 2011, in Portland at age 89.

In addition to Charles "Visko" Hatfield, the youngest of four children, other family members in attendance were daughter Theresa and son-in-law Greg Keller, who was married 37 years to Dr. Elizabeth Hatfield Keller. She died Sept. 13, 2021, of multiple cancers. Mark O. Hatfield Jr. was absent; he is chief security officer at Miami-Dade International Airport, where he has worked since 2016 after 14 years at the federal Transportation Security Administration.

Hatfield's wife of 53 years, Antoinette Kuzmanich Hatfield, survives him at age 93. She also was absent from the celebration, though she makes occasional public appearances.

Hatfield was governor from 1959 to 1967 — he remains the youngest person ever elected to that office — and a U.S. senator from 1967 to 1997. His Senate tenure, a record for Oregon, will soon be eclipsed by Ron Wyden, who has been a senator for more than 26 years and is up for re-election to a fifth full term Nov. 8.

The governors, all Democrats, focused on Hatfield's public record and personal qualities. Two other speakers represented Portland State University — Hatfield raised money for the school of government named after him in 2000 — and Oregon Health & Science University, which benefited from an estimated \$300 million in federal grants that Hatfield steered to it while a senior member and chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

"Visko" Hatfield's message was much darker. He said his father would have been appalled at the current state of Oregon — particularly Portland, where Hatfield spent most of his years after



Peter Wong/Pamplin Media Group

Gov. Kate Brown speaks at the centennial celebration for Mark Hatfield on July 12, 2022, at the Oregon Historical Society in Portland as Kerry Tymchuk, OHS executive director, right, looks on.

leaving the Senate — and its sharply divided politics. Hatfield was a Republican, but he won eight times statewide going back to the mid-1950s, after registered Democrats began to outnumber Republicans in Oregon.

Kerry Tymchuk, Oregon Historical Society executive director and a one-time intern for Hatfield, closed with Hatfield's comments in Hatfield's final public appearance at the Oregon Capitol in Salem on Jan. 8, 2007. The occasion was the swearing-in of another former Hatfield intern, Jeff Merkley, as speaker of the Oregon House. Merkley won Hatfield's former Senate seat in 2008.

Hatfield said

"Years from now, Oregonians will not remember how many members of the House of Representatives were Republicans or Democrats. What they will remember is whether or not they were men and women of goodwill, whether they were Oregonians first — and politicians and partisans second."

Excerpts from their comments are below:

Gov. Kate Brown

"Senator Mark Hatfield's impact on this state has always been a defining factor in what makes Oregon, Oregon. His example is perhaps more important now than ever. He was a bridge builder, not a bomb thrower. He formed working relationships and friendships across partisan lines. He was gracious in disagreement, and comfortable with nuance. He opposed the Vietnam War when it was not politically expedient to do so.

He put principle above politics, breaking with his party on plenty of consequential votes.

"He set the example for Oregon that by working together, we can remain stewards and protectors of our environment while supporting our agricultural and timber industries. His example would set the standard for what has come to be known as the Oregon Way — the commitment to working together through differing perspectives and conflicting interests, in the service of building a better state for all who call Oregon home. And he made this a better state."

Former Gov. Barbara Roberts, 1991-95

She described two instances when as governor herself, she called on Hatfield for advice.

One was an unidentified death penalty case, which did not reach the stage where Roberts was faced with a public choice of commuting the sentence or letting the execution stand. Hatfield as governor in 1962 let stand the execution of Leroy Sanford McGauthery, convicted of the murders of a mother and child, though he opposed the death penalty. (Hatfield said years later he might have decided differently. After voters repealed the death penalty in 1964, he commuted the sentences of the three inmates on death row, including a woman.)

"My duty and my conscience were in direct conflict. He felt my pain — and I felt his heart and his wisdom."

The other was inter-

Oregon National Guard to her appointee as adjutant general, in defiance of the governor's authority as commander in chief. Roberts said she turned to Hatfield, who was not only a former governor but a World War II Navy veteran with combat experience in the Pacific.

Roberts left Oregon upon her high school graduation and marriage in 1954 — her then-husband was in military service — and returned in 1960 when Hatfield was governor.

"I never dreamed that one day I would hold that same office," she said. "The day would come when I would turn to Senator Hatfield for help and advice. Today we remember the many facets of this remarkable man."

Former Gov. Ted Kulongoski, 2003-11

"That other side of the coin is what I remember most about Senator Hatfield. He believed in those values of honor, duty, respect, loyalty, patriotism, tolerance, religion — and above all, his oath.

"He understood that standing up for what is the right thing to do is not always easy or comfortable.

"I believe Senator Hatfield's lasting legacy will be his personal values: His leadership, his courage and his dignity as a representative of the people of Oregon. Character does matter. Senator Hatfield's tangible accomplishments will stand the test of time. But his legacy will be the quality of the person he was — a kind and caring human being."

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