

New sick leave rules leave some Oregon business-owners feeling a bit queasy

By Kathleen Ellyn
Wallowa County Chieftain

The state Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) released final paid sick leave rules Dec. 9 that require companies with 10 or more employees to provide five days of paid sick leave and unpaid leave for smaller companies. Some agriculture and business groups are upset by the short response time available to read, understand and implement the new rules.

The new law (Senate Bill 454) pre-empts any existing ordinances pertaining to sick leave established by Oregon counties or municipalities.

Although the document explaining the law is only 15 pages, the rules are quite complex and business groups have complained that the task of reading, understanding and implementing the law before Jan. 1 is impossible to meet.

BOLI has scheduled training seminars for businesses, but only one will take place before

the deadline and the seminars cost \$25 each to attend — another sore point for business leaders.

“Oregon is only the fourth state in the nation with a state-wide paid sick leave policy,” said John Rakowitz, director of public and strategic affairs for Associated General Contractors. “I think this speaks to the care and consideration that should have been taken when crafting these rules.”

Key components of the newly released rules include how to calculate whether or not a company reaches the 10-employee threshold count — a vital mathematical formula that results in either paid or unpaid sick days as well as notice and accrual requirements.

“We have real concerns with the calculation of employees under these rules,” said Jenny Dresler, director of state public policy for the Oregon Farm Bureau. “It appears our farmers will have to double count temporary laborers (both the contractor and

the farmer must count hours toward sick leave), something that was never the intent of the Legislature. This will result in thousands of farmers and small business owners, many of whom operate on slim margins, being thrown into the new paid sick leave requirements.”

State Sen. Bill Hansell (R-Dist. 29-Athena) and State Rep. Greg Barretto (R-Cove) both called the rules “unfriendly to business” during a September public meeting in Wallowa County. In a recent interview, Sen. Hansell called the bill “a terrible bill to begin with” and blamed Democrats for its passage.

“I voted against it when it came up in the last session, when it came to the floor and through the committees and every chance I had. It had unintended consequences ... particularly for agriculture. Now we’re seeing our worst nightmares come true. BOLI has implemented very onerous restrictions (and) not given us enough time to respond to them. It was a bad bill to begin with and BOLI’s actions have only made it worse.”

BOLI has stated that it will delay agency penalties until 2017. However, the law as adopted in SB 454, will allow employees to seek private lawsuits against employers as of Jan. 1.

“This is very concerning, and employers should not be left with the impression that they are entirely protected from any legal recourse should they not be in compliance immediately Jan. 1, 2016,” said Betsy Earls, policy manager for Associated Oregon Industries. “We are disappointed that a safe harbor and transition period was not written into the rules.”

Repurposed, antique offerings rival west side

By Kathleen Ellyn
Wallowa County Chieftain



Kathleen Ellyn

When I go out to Oregon’s west side to spend time with my mother, we like to hit the second-hand and antique stores — and even Goodwill.

A couple of towns are well known for their offerings in that department — and Wallowa County ought to be on the list as well.

We’ve got an astonishingly lengthy list of establishments that carry upcycle, recycle, vintage and antique goods in our county:

- The newest is Dry Creek Design, 110 E First Street, Wallowa. The store, owned by Garrett and Beth Lowe and staffed by their sons Tyrel and Hadley, opened Dec. 5 and is open just Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Their specialty is repurposing, restoring and reusing items, and they carry everything from light fixtures to buffets. They intend to add Timber Bronze hardware in the near future and already carry seasonal consignments and art by Dennis Reinke. Call 541-263-2800 or visit them on Facebook.

- Another Wallowa-area upcycle/repurpose business is Farm Fresh Pickins, operated by Amy Johnson and her daughter-in-law Brooke Johnson.

Amy sells out of her garage/store on the Johnson Family Farm, 77269 W Highway 82, Wallowa. Amy prefers to be contacted on her Facebook page, or you can call her at 541-263-0111.

- Next up, still in Wallowa, is Back-Achers Industrial Park LLC at 801 N. Douglas Street in Wallowa. Ben and JoAnn Deal own and staff the shop, and they’re open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

Back-Achers identifies as a wholesale and supply store, but

you can find everything from a storage shed to motorcycles to building supplies to antiques — even a chicken shed. Although Back-Achers is more the store you go to if you want to find an item to repurpose, they do repurpose a few items themselves. They recycle old refrigerators and freezers into raised beds and Ben is thinking of making insulated dog or cat houses out of old refrigerators as well. Find them on Facebook or call 541-886-2166.

Enterprise has six places you can shop for either the raw material to do your own repurpose project or find a vendor who has done the work for you.

There are three second-hand or consignment stores in Enterprise:

- Second Best Consignment Shop, 204 W. Greenwood St., Enterprise is owned by Larry Bowen, who has been stocking that store for nearly 28 years. The store carries clothing, kitchen goods, furniture, mattresses — all general merchandise. Larry also purchases things at estate sales, so if you don’t see what you need in the store, he may have it in one of his containers or storage units.

The store is open 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. You can call Larry at 541-426-4605.

- Soroptimist Thrift Shop, 105 NE First Street, Enterprise is operated by Soroptimist International of Wallowa County. Regular hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday. It is open an extra two hours the first Monday of the month (closes at 6 p.m.). It currently is closed until Jan. 13 for repairs.



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 - Tall N Zealand timber tree
 - Piedmont city on the River Gesso
 - Burl ___, storyteller
 - Made up of 50 states
 - Not or
 - Given a monetary penalty
 - Unnilitentium
 - ISU town
 - Equality for everyone
 - A lyric poem with complex stanza forms
 - Actress Farrow
 - Scottish caps
 - Gobblers
 - ___ Lilly, drug company
 - Process an animal hide
 - Describe in perfect detail
 - 1000 calories
 - American National Bank (abbr.)
 - MN 55121
 - Everyone
 - Substitute
 - Rubber, marching or head
 - Dance Latin rhythm
 - Inside of
 - A way to let know
 - Morning moisture
 - Point midway between S and SE
 - Sales messages
- DOWN**
- Duty
 - Whatchamacallit
 - A citizen of Yemen
 - ___ Dhabi, Arabian capital
 - Nickname
 - One seeded fruit (alt. sp.)
 - Fiddler crabs
 - Troughs of bricks
 - Exploiter
 - Atomic #104
 - Italian ice-cream
 - Algerian dinar
 - Consume
 - Macaws
 - Insignificantly small
 - Tooth caregiver
 - Direct toward
 - Bluish green
 - Caliph
 - Faucet
 - The bill in a restaurant
 - Capital of Tocantins, Brazil
 - Explosive
 - The most abundant of the rare-earth group
 - Japanese sock
 - Kampala is the capital
 - Raged
 - Provides with property
 - Miniature racing vehicle
 - Signs
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Church Directory

<p>St. Katherine's Catholic Church</p> <p>Fr. Roger Fernando 301 E. Garfield Enterprise Mass Schedule Weekdays 7:15am Saturdays 5:30pm Sundays 10:30am (541)426-4008 stkatherineenterprise.org St. Pius X Wallowa Sundays 8:00am All are welcome</p>	<p>Summit Church</p> <p>Gospel Centered Community Service time: 10:30 am Cloverleaf Hall in Enterprise Pastor Mark Garland www.summitchurchoregon.org</p>
<p>Joseph United Methodist Church</p> <p>3rd & Lake St. • Joseph Pastor Cherie Johnson Phone: 541-432-3102 Sunday Worship Service 10:00 am Children's Sunday School meets during service</p>	<p>Faith Lutheran Church</p> <p>409 W. Main Enterprise, Oregon Worship 2nd & 4th Sundays - 2 pm Bible Study Tuesdays before the 2nd & 4th Sundays at 11 am LCMS (Lutheran Church Missouri Synod)</p>
<p>Enterprise Christian Church</p> <p>207 East Main - (541) 426-3449</p> <p>Worship at 8:15 & 11:00 Sunday School at 9:45 Evening Worship at 6:00 (nursery at A.M. services)</p> <p>“Loving God & One Another” David Bruce, Sr. Minister</p>	<p>Christ Covenant Church</p> <p>Pastor Terry Tollefson Church Office: 541-426-0301 Family Prayer: 9:30am Sunday School: 10am Worship Service: 11am 723 College Street • Lostine Providence Academy</p>
<p>Lostine Presbyterian Church</p> <p>Discussion Group 9:30 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Childrens program during service Blog: dancingforth.blogspot.com 541.398.0597 Hwy 82, Lostine Stephen Kliever, Minister</p>	<p>Enterprise Community Congregational Church</p> <p>United Church of Christ The Big Brown Church Sunday Worship 11A.M. 301 N. E. First Street, Enterprise CHRISTMAS EVE Candlelight Service 9P.M. (541) 426-3044</p>
<p>Wallowa Assembly of God</p> <p>606 West Hwy 82 Wallowa, Oregon 541-886-8445 Sunday School • 9:30 Worship Service • 10:45 Pastor Tim Barton wallowaassemblyofgod.com</p>	<p>Seventh-Day Adventist Church & School</p> <p>305 Wagner (near the Cemetery) P.O. Box N, Enterprise, OR 97828 541-426-3751 Church 541-426-8339 School Worship Services Sabbath School 9:30 - 10:45 a.m. Worship Hour 11:00 a.m. - Noon Pastor Jonathan DeWeber</p>

The Soroptimist Thrift store has been around since 1957 and is a county favorite. You can find just about any general merchandise, provided it fits in the small space the store occupies. Antiques and collectibles are sold by silent auction every other Tuesday afternoon.

- A new addition to the consignment market is R’s Consignment, 100 West Main, Enterprise. Rene Garoutte opened her store in September and already has developed faithful customers and consigners. The store is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday. In addition to high-end and excellent condition consignments, you will find deeply discounted new items, art, handbags, jewelry, pet clothing and more. You can check it out on Facebook or call 541-359-5474.

The next two shops combined their goods in a Christmas pop-up store during Winterfest. You can see their entire collections at their home businesses.

- Shabby Gypsies in Enterprise is owned by Cindy Craig and Carol Martin. They don’t have a storefront and preferred not to list their address, but their wares can be seen on Facebook and you can call 541-426-3150 to set up an appointment to see specific products.

Cindy creates hand-crafted artisan soaps (also available at Bee Charmed Marketplace in Enterprise), hand-painted covered cake plates and repurposed furnishings in addition to carrying vintage fashions, collectible glassware and more.

- JingleBob’s Vintiques, 505 S. River Street, Enterprise. Carla Fisher has her shop in the garage behind the carport. Her space is packed with eclectic vintage clothing, accessories, jewelry, hats, ties, books, records, salvage doors, windows, hardware and yard art. Hours vary depending on the season so call ahead, 541-426-4712.

- Favorite Finds on Main at 104 W Main St. is the big fish in the pond in Enterprise. Sondra Lozier’s huge shop of antiques, collectibles and vintage-style new items is located right downtown. The store is open 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday and by appointment. See more, including ideas on upcycling, on Sondra’s Facebook page, or call 541-263-0104.

- Stauffer’s Refinishing, 704 Residence St., is the place to go for repair/refinishing/repurposing your valued furniture. Marc and Teena Stauffer have built a reputation so good that there is a waiting list for restorations. They sometimes have antiques for sale. Call 541-426-3819.

Joseph has at least three places where you can shop for collectibles and more.

- Simply Sandy’s, 303 N. Main St., advertises a “collection of uncommon goods,” from furnishings to hardware to decorative pieces to lawn art to ... we don’t have enough space to list it all. Sandy Warnock fills both her vintage cottage and a shed in the winter and several more tents in the back yard during good weather. Her hours are 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday. See her on Facebook or call 541-432-3211.

- Copper Creek Mercantile, 15 S Main, is both an old-fashioned Mercantile, a great shop for home decor and gift ideas, and a source of supplies (such as chalk paint) for your own upcycle project. Owner Tammy Strampe carries antique and upcycle items as well. Her hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. seven days a week until January. See the shop on Facebook or call 541-432-1001.

- Last but certainly not least is Anton’s Home and Hearth, 6 S. Main St. in Joseph. You’ll see the fun collectibles in the window as you approach. Inside Judie Anton’s store, you’ll find the local liquor store, a coffee shop, a kitchen supply store and more. The store is open 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday until January. See more on their Facebook page or visit www.antonshomeandhearth.com or call 541-432-2690.

Make a day of it and enjoy, Wallowa Countians.
Please send your Biz Buzz news tips to Kathleen Ellyn at kellyn@wallowa.com.