

Weather forecast for today through Tuesday. Today: High 53°, Sunshine. Tonight: Low 30°, Partly cloudy. Thursday: High 59°, Low 33°, Sunshine. Friday: High 67°, Low 36°, Mild with plenty of sun. Saturday: High 72°, Low 37°, Very warm with plenty of sunshine. Sunday: High 78°, Low 38°, Plenty of sun. Monday: High 75°, Low 36°, Remaining warm with clouds and sunshine. Tuesday: High 71°, Low 34°, Cloudy, a shower possible; not as warm.

ALMANAC: Bend Municipal Airport through 5 p.m. yesterday. TEMPERATURE: Yesterday Normal Record. High 54° 56° 93° in 1904. Low 32° 30° 10° in 1968. PRECIPITATION: 24 hours through 5 p.m. yesterday 0.00". Record 0.50" in 1937. Month to date (normal) 0.00" (0.33"). Year to date (normal) 1.18" (3.68"). Barometric pressure at 4 p.m. 30.08". SUN, MOON AND PLANETS: Rise/Set Today Thu. Sun 6:23am/7:48pm 6:22am/7:49pm. Moon 7:48am/10:39pm 8:15am/11:41pm. Venus 6:40am/8:11pm 6:39am/8:14pm. Mars 9:20am/1:01am 9:19am/12:58am. Jupiter 4:17am/2:35pm 4:13am/2:32pm. Saturn 3:41am/1:25pm 3:37am/1:21pm. Uranus 7:01am/9:03pm 6:58am/9:00pm. First Full Last New: Apr 19 Apr 26 May 3 May 11. Tonight's sky: Hercules, the Hero, emerging in the east after sunset.

OREGON WEATHER: Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows. Map of Oregon with weather icons and temperatures for various cities. AccuWeather logo.

TRAVEL WEATHER NATIONAL: Table with columns for City, Yesterday HI/Lo/Prec., Today HI/Lo/W, Thursday HI/Lo/W. Lists major cities and their weather conditions.

UV INDEX TODAY: 10 a.m. 4, Noon 6, 2 p.m. 6, 4 p.m. 4. The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection. 0-2 Low, 3-5 Moderate, 6-7 High, 8-10 Very High, 11+ Extreme. POLLEN COUNT: Grasses Absent, Trees High, Weeds Absent. Source: Oregon Allergy Associates 541-683-1577.

NATIONAL WEATHER: Table with columns for City, Yesterday HI/Lo/Prec., Today HI/Lo/W, Thursday HI/Lo/W. Lists major cities and their weather conditions.

INTERNATIONAL: Table with columns for City, Yesterday HI/Lo/Prec., Today HI/Lo/W, Thursday HI/Lo/W. Lists international cities and their weather conditions.

WATER REPORT: As of 7 a.m. yesterday. Reservoir: Crane Prairie 47298 86%, Wickiup 113362 57%, Crescent Lake 22386 26%, Ochoco Reservoir 11233 25%, Prineville 90329 61%. River flow: Deschutes R. below Crane Prairie 77, Wickiup 605, Deschutes R. below Bend 74, Deschutes R. at Benham Falls 960, Little Deschutes near La Pine 80, Crescent Ck. below Crescent Lake 14, Crooked R. above Prineville Res. 396, Crooked R. below Prineville Res. 163, Crooked R. near Terrebonne 120, Ochoco Ck. below Ochoco Res. 3. SKI REPORT: In inches as of 5 p.m. yesterday. Ski resort: Mt. Bachelor 0 90-111, Mt. Hood Meadows 2 0-205, Timberline Lodge 0 0-189, Aspen / Snowmass, CO 0 45-64, Mammoth Mtn. Ski, CA 0 41-71. Source: OnTheSnow.com

NATIONAL WEATHER: Map of the United States showing weather systems and precipitation. Legend for -10s to 110s, T-storms, Rain, Showers, Snow, Flurries, Ice, Cold Front, Warm Front, Stationary Front.

INTERNATIONAL: Table with columns for City, Yesterday HI/Lo/Prec., Today HI/Lo/W, Thursday HI/Lo/W. Lists international cities and their weather conditions.



The Eddy Apartments are located at SW Shevlin Hixon Drive and SW Bradbury Way in Bend. Dean Guernsey/The Bulletin

Continued from A1 In an appeal to the state Land Use Board of Appeals in the spring of 2019, Old Mill District developer Bill Smith and Shevlin Dental shared concerns about the height not fitting in with the aesthetics of the area and the amount of parking. The appeal prompted the developer, Evergreen Housing Develop-

ment Group, to mediate and adjust the design, according to a public meeting held by the housing group in 2019. The developer scaled back the design in 2019, down from 170 units. Reducing the number of units led to the elimination of the fourth story to address community concerns about the height of the building, according to a public meeting held in August 2019.

As a part of this adjustment, the group also kept the amount of parking the same at 176 spots, despite a reduction in units. The housing group hopes to complete the project by November, said the group's president, Andrew Brand, in an email. Editor's note: Bill Smith is an investor in The Bulletin. Reporter: 541-633-2160, bvissler@bendbulletin.com

Idaho lawmakers hear pitch to absorb three-fourths of Oregon

BY KEITH RIDLER The Associated Press BOISE, Idaho — Idaho lawmakers appeared intrigued but skeptical on Monday when pitched a plan to lop off about three-fourths of Oregon and add it to Idaho to create what would become the nation's third-largest state geographically. Representatives of a group called Move Oregon's Border For a Greater Idaho outlined their plan to a joint meeting of Idaho lawmakers from the House and Senate on Monday. The Idaho Legislature would have to approve the plan that would expand Idaho's southwestern border to the Pacific Ocean. The Oregon Legislature and the U.S. Congress would also have to sign off. Supporters of the idea said rural Oregon voters are dom-

inated by liberal urban areas such as Portland, and would rather join conservative Idaho. Portland would remain with Oregon. "There's a longtime cultural divide as big as the Grand Canyon between northwest Oregon and rural Oregon, and it's getting larger," Mike McCarter, president of Move Oregon's Border for a Greater Idaho, told Idaho lawmakers. If everything falls in line with Oregon, supporters envision also adding adjacent portions of southeastern Washington and Northern California to Idaho. Backers said residents in those areas also yearn for less government oversight and long to become part of a red state insulated from the liberal influence of large urban centers that tend to vote Democratic. "Values of faith, family, independence. That's what we're

about," said Mark Simmons, an Eastern Oregon rancher and former speaker of the Oregon House. "We don't need the state breathing down our necks all the time, micromanaging our lives and trying to push us into a foreign way of living." The group's strategy has been to get advisory votes in Oregon counties likely to make the switch. But in November the group had mixed success with two counties opting to join Idaho but two wanting to stay a part of Oregon. Supporters blamed the setback on the coronavirus pandemic and an inability to get their message out. Five more Oregon counties are expected to vote on the matter in May. The county votes carry no weight, but are intended to potentially sway lawmakers to ultimately approve the plan.

Legislature

Continued from A1 Both parties agree the COVID-19 pandemic and 2020 wildfires, along with the state budget, are at the top of the agenda. Republicans say that's enough for the narrowly-focused session they want. "The House is running a crushing number of committees and pushing controversial legislation," House Republican Leader Christin Drazan, R-Canby, said early in the session. Democrats say they have large majorities because voters want more affordable housing, health care, environmental safeguards, police reform, social equity, gun control and more. "Votes matter," Kotek has said of Republican opposition. Whatever the outcome, the Legislature has 75 days as of Wednesday — weekends included — left on its calendar.

After June 28, lawmakers are required to adjourn, no matter what. Democrats have enough votes to pass any legislation without Republican votes. While unable to defeat bills, Republicans can slow or stall all lawmaking. Senate Republicans held a one-day walkout early in the session to remind Democrats that they ignored GOP input at their peril. Republicans in both chambers departed Salem in 2020, killing the session with hundreds of bills awaiting action. Drazan has opted instead to use parliamentary rules to require bills be read out loud in their entirety. The glacial process reached its bizarre apex when a computer program with a metallic female monotone voice read a 170-page bill. It took two days to finally vote on mostly technical revisions to the newly-designated Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission.

Kotek has countered Drazan's slo-mo move by doubling the weekly floor sessions to including evenings and Saturdays. Starting Thursday, Kotek is having three sessions per day. While the fight in the House has hogged the political spotlight, the Senate has remained mostly collegial, keeping its usual hours and pace. That hasn't always sat well with the most bitter opponents of the Democratic agenda. When GOP senators vehemently opposed a bill to ban concealed weapons in state buildings late last month, Democrats passed it 16-7 with no Republicans voting yes. But afterward, some gun control opponents were furious there was any vote at all, saying the GOP senators should have walked out as they had before over taxes and environmental legislation. A group mounted a recall drive against Senate Minority Leader Fred Girod, R-Stayton.

Senate Republican Caucus spokesman Dru Draper confirmed late last week that some senators have received death threats. Draper showed Oregon Capital Bureau one email telling a senator that he should be gunned down. "We have instructed members to report all emails like these to OSP," Draper said. Girod said earlier walkouts over tax proposals and a carbon cap program had created expectations of more departures to block voting on multiple issues. "People now expect it for all bills that, from a Republican perspective, are seen as a bad bill," Girod told Oregon Public Broadcasting. "The problem that we had is trying to walk for 3½ months just was not doable." Girod said the GOP caucus discussed a walkout over the gun bill. Girod and other senior lawmakers in the party said they could not abandon the session with the state

budget and bills to aid state businesses hurt by the pandemic still awaiting approval. It wasn't unanimous — four Republicans were recorded as absent when the vote was taken. Whether some kind of reconciliation can be found between Kotek and Drazan will be worked out in this second half of the session. Bad blood has surfaced before between Courtney and Girod. No controversial bills have yet come up for a vote that would send a bill to Brown to be signed into law. Despite the slowdown, such votes will soon be common. Will Republicans stay or go? Democratic leaders have ruled out capitulation, but last week dangled a carrot to entice Republicans from departing Salem early. All legislators received invitations last week from Kotek and Courtney asking for ideas on how to spend about \$780 million in federal money.

The letter, first reported by The Oregonian, called for ideas on using part of the state's portion of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan approved by Congress and signed into law by President Joe Biden. "We are really looking for bigger and bolder ideas to invest that money for the future, for one-time things and some ongoing needs to move our state forward," Kotek wrote. Any of the new projects would be money on top of the \$1.6 billion sent directly by Congress to Oregon counties, cities, and towns. With current financial largess from Congress unlikely to be repeated and a possible 2023-25 state budget crunch looming, Kotek encouraged lawmakers to act on the opportunity in the 2021-22 budget. Democrats' message: There could be a Sequoia-sized "Christmas Tree" in July, if the Legislature is still there to pass the bill. gwamer@eomediagroup.com