

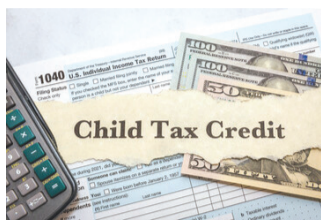
# New laws and updates to existing laws 2024

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foam. The bill also prohibits businesses from using or selling foam packing peanuts or single-use foam coolers. The ban is aimed at reducing the amount of plastic waste in the environment and promoting the use of more sustainable alternatives

## Paramilitary Activity

HB 2572 Oregon House Bill 2572 is a paramilitary activity bill that provides the state with new tools to prevent paramilitary activity, which has been unlawful in all 50 states, including Oregon, for decades. The bill creates a right of action for a person injured by paramilitary activity and expands the definition of "civil disorder" for purposes of the crime of unlawful paramilitary activity. The bill also authorizes the Attorney General to bring a civil action for injunctive relief against paramilitary activity and authorizes the use of investigative demands during an investigation into paramilitary activity. While there is little information available on the level of concern among Oregonians regarding violations of their civil liberties and 1st and 2nd constitutional rights. 1. (Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.) and 2. (A well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.) it is worth noting that the bill had bipartisan support in the House but passed along party lines in the Senate. The bill requires multiple factors to be taking place at the same time to apply. "There has to be three or more people, training with a dangerous or deadly weapon, under a command structure and they have to actually be in the act or about to commit the act of infringing on people's protected First Amendment Rights," said Rep. Dacia Grayber, a Democrat who represents southwest Portland and Beaverton and was chief sponsor of the legislation. Currently Oregon has a law against unlawful paramilitary activity, which is a Class C felony. A person commits the crime of unlawful paramilitary activity if the person exhibits, displays or demonstrates to another person the use, application or making of any firearm, explosive or incendiary device or any technique capable of causing injury or death to persons and intends or knows that such firearm, explosive or incendiary device or technique will be unlawfully employed for use in a civil disorder; or assembles with one or more other persons for the purpose of training with, practicing with or being instructed in the use of any firearm, explosive or incendiary device or technique capable of causing injury or death to persons with the intent to unlawfully employ such firearm, explosive or incendiary device or technique in a civil disorder. The law also provides immunity for law enforcement officers and does not make unlawful any activity of the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, or any activity intended to teach or practice self-defense or self-defense techniques, such as karate clubs or self-defense clinics, and similar lawful activity, or any facility, program or lawful activity related to firearms instruction and

training intended to teach the safe handling and use of firearms, or any other lawful sports or activities related to the individual recreational use or possession of firearms, including but not limited to hunting activities, target shooting, self-defense, firearms collection or any organized activity including, but not limited to any hunting club, rifle club, rifle range or shooting range which does not include a conspiracy as defined in ORS 161.450 or the knowledge of or the intent to cause or further a



## Child Tax Credit

Oregon House Bill 3235 is a child tax credit bill that provides a fully refundable \$1,000 tax credit for every child aged 0 to 5 to qualifying low-income families. Families earning up to \$25,000 per year are eligible for the full credit, before eligibility phases out by \$30,000. The bill is aimed at helping families cover rising costs and the daily basics, including things like rent, food, utilities, child care, and more. According to the Oregon Center for Public Policy, approximately 55,000 Oregon children are expected to benefit from this credit.

If you are a low-income family with children aged 0 to 5, you may be eligible for the Oregon Kids' Credit. The credit is fully refundable, which means that even if you don't owe any taxes, you can still receive the full amount of the credit as a refund. The credit can help you cover the costs of raising your children, including things like rent, food, utilities, child care, and more.

## Addressing the problem of measure 110

Oregon House Bill 2513 aims to improve how drug decriminalization Measure 110 is implemented. The law will help Oregonians access addiction treatment by increasing treatment service staffing, centralizing Measure 110 hotline support, and speeding up approval to get Measure 110 funding out the door. The law will also improve data collection on Measure 110 programs.

Measure 110, which was passed by Oregon voters in November 2020, decriminalized the possession of small amounts of drugs and redirected funds from the state's marijuana tax revenue to fund addiction treatment services.

The law is aimed to help Oregonians access addiction treatment by increasing treatment service staffing, centralizing Measure 110 hotline support, and speeding up approval to get Measure 110 funding out the door. The law will also improve data collection on Measure 110 programs. These measures are expected to help Oregonians struggling with addiction to access the care they need to recover.

## Photo Radar

HB 2095 Authorizes all cities to elect to operate photo radar if city pays costs of operating photo radar. Eliminates restriction on number of hours per day photo radar may be used in any one location. Expands authority of city to set designated speed for certain residential streets to speed that is up to 10 miles per hour lower than statutory speed, but not less than 20 miles per hour.

## Housing

Oregon House Bill

2984 is a housing bill that allows the conversion of a building from commercial use to housing within the urban growth boundary under certain conditions. The bill prohibits local governments from enforcing parking minimums and limits the collection of system development charges for such conversions. The law applies only to cities of at least 10,000 people and such developments can't cut into land zoned for heavy industry. The bill aims to increase the availability of affordable housing in Oregon by allowing the conversion of commercial buildings to housing units. The bill is expected to help address the state's housing crisis by providing more affordable housing



options for Oregonians.

## Wildfire Insurance

Oregon Senate Bill 82 is a homeowner insurance bill that establishes certain requirements for insurers that cancel or decide not to renew homeowner insurance policies, or that increase premiums, for reasons materially related to wildfire risk. The bill requires insurers to make public, and reflect in their underwriting guidelines and rate plans, certain information related to wildfire risk mitigation actions. The bill also prohibits insurance companies from using statewide maps of wildfire risk published by an agency of the state as a basis for canceling or declining to renew a policy or increasing a premium. The bill is aimed at protecting homeowners in Oregon who are at risk of losing their insurance coverage due to wildfire risk. The bill is expected to help homeowners by ensuring that insurance

companies cannot use statewide maps of wildfire risk as a basis for canceling or declining to renew a policy or increasing a premium.

## Retail Theft

Oregon Senate Bill 340 is a crime bill that enacts harsher penalties for people convicted of organized retail theft. The law establishes a presumptive sentence of 24 months imprisonment if the person convicted of retail theft has previous convictions including aggravated theft, burglary, and robbery charges. The law will also strengthen current statutes allowing more flexibility for law enforcement and prosecutors to detect, deter organized retail theft.

## Synthetic Opioids

Oregon Senate Bill 238 directs the Oregon Health Authority, State Board of Education, and Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission to collaborate on developing curricula supplements related to dangers of certain drugs and to laws that provide immunity or other protections related to drug or alcohol use. The bill is aimed at educating students about the dangers of synthetic opioids and legal immunity for people who report drug or alcohol use, as well as protections for people seeking medical treatment for themselves or others for drug and alcohol overdoses. The bill requires the Oregon Health Authority, State Board of Education, and Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission to develop curricula supplements related to dangers of certain drugs and to laws that provide immunity or other protections related to drug or alcohol use. The bill is expected to help educate students about the dangers of synthetic opioids and legal immunity for people who report drug or alcohol use, as well as protections for people seeking medical treatment for themselves or others for drug and alcohol overdoses.

# Lindsay Scholarship dinner & auction

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We're very appreciative of the help we have received in getting this off the ground and we look forward to giving back to our community." said Kim Lindsay.

The Lindsays family invites the entire community to join them in celebrating Barney Lindsays legacy and contributing to the education of future leaders. Your attendance and support at the Gilliam & Bisbee Building on January

27th will help make a meaningful impact on the lives of the local graduating seniors. Tickets are \$40 each and a sponsor table seating 8 is \$500. The sponsors tables include preferred seating, dedicated servers, and wine. Tickets offer you two drinks chips and will be available starting January 2nd at Murrays Drug in Heppner or by emailing [kimber97839@yahoo.com](mailto:kimber97839@yahoo.com) for more information contact Kimberly Lindsay at 541-980-855.

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**\$275,000**  
375 W Union Ave, Heppner  
**NEW LISTING**

This single family home, spanning 1641 square feet, boasts a spacious dining room and living room along with a family room 3 bedrooms, 1.5 bathrooms and lots of storage. Situated in a peaceful neighborhood, it is conveniently located close to the swimming pool, high school, baseball park, and downtown area. The property sits on a large lot with street access, with lots of parking and also features a shop. Large covered deck, patio and a carport. The total land area is 0.25 Acres. MLS#: 23224220

SUBMIT NEWS, ADVERTISING & ANNOUNCEMENTS  
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR SEND US PHOTOS  
START A NEW SUBSCRIPTION

# JANUARY HOURS

<b>Friday</b>	<b>11 AM - 7 PM</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>11 AM - 6 PM</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>12 PM - 5 PM</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>11 AM - 7 PM</b>

**We've added a 4th day for you along with lunch portions on Monday and Friday!**

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