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Bill To Reduce Personal Property Taxes Introduced

Salem—UPI—Two Republican legislators Wednesday introduced a bill that would reduce personal property taxes throughout Oregon as much as 50 per cent.

Rep. Joe Rogers (R-Independence) and Sen. Eddie Ahrens (R-Turner) said they thought that the revenue received from personal property taxes of about \$35 million annually is too large to eliminate or to shift to real estate.

They said the personal property tax was one of the "most unfair and obnoxious" taxes in Oregon's tax structure. Statewide Basis

personal property on the tax rolls in each county.

A bill was introduced providing for establishment of admission boards for all state schools of higher learning.

Rep. Vernon Cook (D-Troutdale) introduced it.

Included would be technical schools and junior colleges.

Merit and Ability
Standards of admission would be based on merit and ability and no one would be refused admittance on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, financial status or personality traits.

Mink Do Well on Low-Value Fish

Corvallis — Oregon mink raisers may find two local waste-products a real boon for holding down feeding costs in the state's highly competitive \$4 million business, it was reported Saturday at the fifth annual Oregon State college fur farm field day.

Turkey waste and hake, a plentiful, low-value "bottom fish" caught off the Oregon coast, showed up well in mink diet tests at the college's agricultural experiment station.

Competition from the "cat and dog food" trade for horse-meat and beef liver has forced the mink industry into a search for cheaper feeds. At the same time, increased human food demands for sole and other fish are putting pressure on mink-feeding costs.

Uncooked turkey waste making up 55 per cent of the mink diet gave good growth and pelt quality in OSC tests this year, John Adair, OSC fish and game management biologist, reported.

Adair said results were comparable to the standard commercial - type diet of horse-meat, liver, tripe, cereals, and combinations of bottom fish.

Tuna waste supplemented with vitamin E was also tested but fell short in pelt size and quality.

TO MECHANIZE
Taipei, Formosa—UPI—Agriculture officials have launched a long-range program to mechanize 1,000-year-old farming methods on this island stronghold of the Chinese Nationalists.

The committee on fish and game introduced legislation increasing deer tag fees from \$1 to \$2 for resident hunters.

Other legislation introduced by the committee would waive restrictions on the taking of antelope, deer or elk where either an emergency exists or the game taken is used for research purposes.

Another committee bill provides penalties for violating fishing or hunting laws or regulations where penalties are now provided.

Higher State Budgets Call For New Increases in Taxes

By RAYMOND LAHR
Washington — (UPI) — State budgets are going up like robust mountain climbers and so are state taxes.

In more than half of the 45 states whose Legislatures meet this year, new taxes or increases in present levies are possible or probable and in some cases certain.

In almost all states where governors have submitted budgets for the coming fiscal year or biennium, their budgets are higher than the last ones and many are at all-time highs. The same upward trend is expected in those still to come. An exception is Kansas.

Nelson A. Rockefeller of New York and Edmund G. Brown of California — the two biggest states — each has given his Legislature a record budget in excess of \$2 billion for the next fiscal year. Rockefeller's included a fat tax package to raise \$277,000,000 and Brown asked for tax increases totaling \$256,000,000.

Borrow From Banks
In Michigan, Gov. G. Mennen Williams is beset by a financial crisis so severe that state universities were borrowing from banks, which now shut off further credit.

He has asked for \$140 million a year of new revenue. Michigan expects to have a deficit of \$110 million by July 1.

The Indiana Legislature received its first billion dollar budget this year for the coming biennium but it can be handled with no new tax increases on top of those enacted two years ago. Virginia

moved into the billion dollar budget class last year.

In New Jersey, Gov. Robert B. Meyner also presented a record budget but said it could be balanced without a tax increase.

Illinois and Pennsylvania legislators will receive budgets in the neighborhood of \$2 billion for the next biennium. Both are expected to include proposals to increase the take from state sales taxes.

Gov. David L. Lawrence of Pennsylvania thinks his state will need about \$400 million in new revenue for the two-year period.

Seek New Income Taxes
New or increased state income taxes, higher and — or broader sales taxes and increased excises on liquor and tobacco are the most widely proposed measures for raising new revenue.

Like the federal government, 10 states already withhold income taxes from paychecks. Rockefeller's and Williams' tax programs call for withholding taxes in New York and Michigan. The same proposals are getting attention in Minnesota and Massachusetts, where the Legislatures have rejected them in past years, and in North Carolina and South Carolina.

Massachusetts is in trouble too, with a \$35 million deficit expected this fiscal year. Gov. Foster Furcolo wants a withholding system to collect state income taxes and a new but

limited sales tax of three per cent.

Other states where new or revised sales taxes in some form are getting attention include Arizona, Illinois, Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Vermont and Washington.

Some Minnesota legislators want to levy a sales tax, but Gov. Orville L. Freeman wants to raise income taxes and excises on liquor and tobacco.

Maryland taxpayers got their bad news last year — a double dose of it. The state income tax was increased by 50 per cent, effective in 1958, and the sales tax was jumped from two per cent to three per cent, effective Jan. 1.

Other states in which changes in income taxes are being considered include Alabama, Colorado, Idaho, South Carolina and Wisconsin.

A new income tax may be proposed in Rhode Island, which now has a sales tax.

Gov. Albert D. Rossellini of Washington, which also depends now on a sales tax, wants a constitutional amendment to authorize an income tax. For the short run, however, Rossellini is asking for

a sales tax and other revenue changes to yield about \$135 million over two years.

States considering higher liquor or tobacco taxes include Colorado, Idaho, Illinois, Maine, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, Ohio, South Carolina and Vermont.

Some states are considering gasoline tax increases but in most cases the situation has not yet jelled. Eight states raised gasoline taxes in the past two years.

In Kansas — an exception — Gov. George Docking's budget for the next fiscal year is about \$7 million lower than this year. He is asking for a new truck tax and for a reduction of the 2½ per cent sales tax to two per cent. The Legislature has not reacted favorably to either proposal.

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