

FULL TEXT OF BALLOT TITLES—NOVEMBER 8, 2016

MORROW COUNTY • STATE OF OREGON

ONLY THE CAPTION AND QUESTION WILL APPEAR ON YOUR OFFICIAL BALLOT AND ONLY THE APPROPRIATE MEASURES FOR EACH PRECINCT WILL APPEAR ON THAT PRECINCT'S BALLOT.

STATE MEASURES

Referred to the People
by the Legislative Assembly

94 Amends Constitution: Eliminates mandatory retirement age for state judges

Result of "Yes" Vote: "Yes" vote amends constitution, state judges not required to retire from judicial office after turning 75 years old. Statutes cannot establish mandatory retirement age.

Result of "No" Vote: "No" vote retains constitutional provisions requiring state judges to retire from judicial office after turning 75 years old, authorizing statutes establishing lesser mandatory retirement age.

Summary: Article VII (Amended), section 1a, of the Oregon Constitution, requires state judges to "retire from judicial office at the end of the calendar year" in which they turn 75 years old. Section 1a(1) authorizes laws that establish a lesser age—not younger than 70 years—for mandatory retirement. Measure amends constitution to remove provision requiring mandatory retirement at age 75, as well as provision authorizing statutes requiring mandatory retirement at age 70 or older. Measure retains constitutional provision that authorizes statutes permitting retired judges to be recalled to temporary active service. Measure retains constitutional provision that authorizes laws permitting or requiring judges to retire due to a physical or mental disability or any other cause that renders them incapable of performing their judicial duties.

Estimate of Financial Impact: There is no financial impact to state revenue or expenditures. There is no financial impact on local government revenue or expenditures.

95 Amends Constitution: Allows investments in equities by public universities to reduce financial risk and increase investments to benefit students.

Result of "Yes" Vote: "Yes" vote allows public universities to invest in equities to reduce financial risk and increase funds available to help students.

Result of "No" Vote: "No" vote prevents public universities from investing in equities.

Summary: This measure allows investments in equities by public universities to reduce financial risk and increase investments to benefit students. Additional investment income could benefit students by minimizing tuition increases and enhancing student programs.

Estimate of Financial Impact: This measure amends Article XI, section 6 of the Oregon Constitution to exempt public universities from a constitutional prohibition on ownership by the State of stock of any company, association, or corporation.

There is no financial effect on either state or local government expenditures or revenues required by the measure. The revenue and expenditure impact on public universities is dependent upon decisions by each university on the type and amount of private equity in which they choose (or choose not) to invest, and on the return on these investments.

96 Amends Constitution: Dedicates 1.5% of state lottery net proceeds to funding support services for Oregon veterans

Result of "Yes" Vote: "Yes" vote dedicates 1.5% of state lottery net proceeds to fund veterans' services, including assistance with employment, education, housing, and physical/mental health care.

Result of "No" Vote: "No" vote retains current list of authorized purposes for spending state lottery net proceeds; 1.5% dedication to fund veterans' services not required.

Summary: Amends Constitution, dedicates lottery funding for veterans' support services. Currently, constitution requires that state lottery proceeds be used to create jobs, further economic development, and finance public education; dedicates some net lottery proceeds as follows: 18% to finance education stability fund, 15% to finance state parks, restoration and protection of native fish and wildlife, watersheds, water quality and wildlife habitats, 15% to finance school capital matching fund. Measure dedicates 1.5% of lottery net proceeds to fund services for Oregon veterans. Veterans' services include assistance with employment, education, housing, physical/mental health care, addiction treatment, reintegration, access to government benefits, and other services for veterans, spouses and dependents. Other provisions.

Estimate of Financial Impact: This referral amends the Oregon Constitution to dedicate 1.5% of net proceeds from the State Lottery to be deposited in a veteran's services fund, to be created by the Legislature. The money in the veteran's services fund is to be expended on veterans' services, which may include: (1) reintegration, employment, education benefits and tuition, housing, physical and mental health care and addiction treatment programs; (2) assistance for veterans or their dependents to access state and federal benefits; or (3) funding for services provided by county veterans' services officers, campus veterans' service officer or nonprofit or tribal veterans' services officers. The referral defines a veteran as a resident of the State of Oregon who served in the Armed Forces of the United States.

Based on the June 2016 forecast from the Office of Economic Analysis 1.5% of net lottery proceeds for veterans' services would be approximately \$9.3 million annually for the 2017-19 biennium. This measure would not have an impact on the constitutionally dedicated amounts for the Educational Stability Fund or the Parks and Natural Resources Fund. The measure does not affect the overall amount of funds collected for or expended by state government. The measure would result in an expenditure shift of \$9.3 million annually, during the 2017-19 biennium, to the Veterans' Services Fund from economic development and public education expenditures.

Proposed by Initiative Petition

97 Increases corporate minimum tax when sales exceed \$25 million; funds education, healthcare, senior services

Result of "Yes" Vote: "Yes" vote increases corporate minimum tax when sales exceed \$25 million; removes tax limit; exempts "benefit companies"; increased revenue funds education, healthcare, senior services.

Result of "No" Vote: "No" vote retains existing corporate minimum tax rates based on Oregon sales; tax limited to \$100,000; revenue not dedicated to education, healthcare, senior services.

Summary: Current law requires each corporation or affiliated group of corporations filing a federal tax return to pay annual minimum tax; amount of tax is determined by tax bracket corresponding to amount of corporation's Oregon sales; corporations with sales of \$100 million or more pay \$100,000. Measure increases annual minimum tax on corporations with Oregon sales of more than \$25 million; imposes minimum tax of \$30,001 plus 2.5% of amount of sales above \$25 million; eliminates tax cap; benefit companies (business entities that create public benefit) taxed under current law. Applies to tax years beginning on/after January 1, 2017. Revenue from tax increase goes to: public education (early childhood through grade 12); healthcare; services for senior citizens.

Estimate of Financial Impact: The measure is anticipated to increase state revenues by \$548 million from January 1st to June 30th of 2017, and approximately \$3 billion for every year beginning July 1st after that.

The financial impact on state expenditures by program is indeterminate. The increased revenue will require increased expenditures by the state in the areas of public early childhood and kindergarten through grade 12 education, health care, and senior services, but the exact amount and the specific uses within the three identified programs cannot be determined.

Although there is no direct financial effect on local government expenditures or revenues, there is likely to be an indirect and indeterminate effect on the state economy and local government revenues and expenditures.

98 Requires state funding for dropout-prevention, career and college readiness programs in Oregon high schools

Result of "Yes" Vote: "Yes" vote requires state legislature to fund dropout-prevention, career and college readiness programs through grants to Oregon high schools; state monitors programs.

Result of "No" Vote: "No" vote retains current law: legislature not required to commit funds to career-technical/college-level education/dropout-prevention programs, retains discretion to allocate funds.

Summary: Currently, the Oregon legislature provides General Fund revenues to the State School Fund based on constitutionally required quality goals; those funds are distributed directly to school districts under a specified formula. Measure requires legislature to separately provide at least \$800 per high school student—adjusted upward annually for inflation/population—to a Department of Education (ODE) administered account. ODE distributes those funds to school districts to establish or expand high school programs providing career-technical education, college-level courses, and dropout-prevention strategies. School districts must apply for grants, meet specified requirements. Districts may use limited portion of fund for administration costs but not unrelated activities. ODE monitors school district performance, ensures compliance, facilitates programs; Secretary of State audits biannually. Other provisions.

Estimate of Financial Impact: The measure does not affect the aggregate amount of funds collected or expended by state or local government.

The measure does, however, commit a minimum increase of \$147 million annually to expenditures on career and technical education, accelerated learning and high school graduation improvement programs. This number could be lower if state revenues do not grow by \$1.5 billion in the 2017-2019 biennium.

Because the measure does not raise additional revenue, the measure specifically provides that the Legislature determine how these program expansions will be funded.

Proposed by Initiative Petition

99 Creates “Outdoor School Education Fund,” continuously funded through Lottery, to provide outdoor school programs statewide

Result of “Yes” Vote: “Yes” vote creates separate fund, financed through Oregon Lottery Economic Development Fund and administered by Oregon State University (OSU), to provide outdoor school programs statewide.

Result of “No” Vote: “No” vote rejects creation of fund to provide outdoor school programs statewide; retains current law under which OSU administers outdoor school grants if funding available.

Summary: Presently, Oregon does not fund outdoor school programs statewide, but, under current law, OSU assists school districts by awarding grants according to specified criteria and providing program maintenance, conditioned on funding. Measure creates separate “Outdoor School Education Fund” (Fund) that is financed by Oregon State Lottery money distributed for economic development. Caps annual distributions of Lottery revenues to Fund. Specifies Fund’s purpose to provide every Oregon fifth- or sixth-grade student week-long outdoor school program or equivalent. Continuously appropriates Fund to OSU to administer and fund outdoor school programs statewide consistent with current law’s grant program criteria; may require Fund dispersal outside of grant program. Allocations to Fund shall not reduce lottery proceeds dedicated under Oregon Constitution to education, parks, beaches, watersheds, fish, wildlife.

Estimate of Financial Impact: This measure amends Oregon Revised Statutes to dedicate a portion of lottery proceeds for a statewide outdoor school program. In 2015, the Oregon State Legislature established an Outdoor Education Account for the purpose of funding a six day, residential, hands-on outdoor school program or equivalent for fifth and sixth grade students across the state. The Legislature did not provide funding at that time. This measure would affect distributions from the Department of Administrative Services Economic Development Fund. It dedicates the lesser of the following two amounts to the Outdoor Education account: either four percent of the quarterly transfers to this fund or \$5.5 million quarterly, with a maximum of \$22 million each year.

The measure would result in an expenditure shift of \$22 million annually to the Outdoor Education Account from the Department of Administrative Services Economic Development Fund. The measure does not affect the overall amount of funds collected for or expended by state government. This measure would not have an impact on the constitutionally dedicated amounts for the Educational Stability Fund or the Parks and Natural Resources Fund.

100 Prohibits purchase or sale of parts or products from certain wildlife species; exceptions; civil penalties

Result of “Yes” Vote: “Yes” vote prohibits purchase/sale of parts/products from certain wildlife species; exceptions for specified activities, gift/inheritations, and certain antiques/musical instruments; civil penalties.

Result of “No” Vote: Maintains current Oregon law which does not prohibit purchase or sale of parts or products from species not native to Oregon, except for shark fins.

Summary: Existing Oregon law does not prohibit sale of wildlife parts/products for non native species, except shark fins. Existing federal law does not prohibit intrastate sales of wildlife parts, with exceptions. Measure amends ORS 498.022 to prohibit purchase, sale, or possession with intent to sell of parts/products from elephant, rhinoceros, whale, tiger, lion, leopard, cheetah, jaguar, pangolin, sea turtle, shark, ray. Imposes civil penalties. Creates exceptions: law enforcement activities; activities authorized by federal law; fish managed under federal plan; certain antiques (over 100 years old) and musical instruments with less than 200 grams of parts; noncommercial transfers through estates, trusts, gifts; possession by tribal members. Other exceptions. Fish and Wildlife Commission may adopt rules, including prohibiting purchase/sale of parts “closely” resembling listed species parts.

Estimate of Financial Impact: There is less than a \$100,000 financial effect on state government expenditures or revenues. There is no financial effect on local government expenditures or revenues.

TOWN OF LEXINGTON

25-75 Renew Five year local Option Tax for Street Operations.

Question: Should the district Renew the \$.62 per \$1000 of Assessed value for Street operations beginning in 2017?

This measure renews current local option taxes.

Summary: The Town of Lexington is asking residents to approve a \$.62 per \$1000 Local Option Tax for the street Department. This tax will be for operating revenue for Lexington Street Department. Without this tax the street Department will no longer be able to operate, and it will reduce our maintenance person’s work hours by 25%.

**IRRIGON RURAL
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

25-76 Irrigon Rural Fire Protection District General Obligation Bond Authorization

Question: Shall the District issue general obligation bonds not exceeding \$2,110,000 for a new Public Safety Facility, apparatus and equipment? If the bonds are approved, they will be payable from taxes on property or property ownership that are not subject to the limits of Section 11 and 11b, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

Summary: This measure authorizes the District to issue general obligation bonds to finance:

- Construction, acquisition and equipping of a new public safety facility on land currently owned by the District.
- Replace apparatus and equipment
- Pay bond issuance costs

The bonds would mature in 21 years or less from the date of issuance and may be issued in more than one series. The estimated annual average tax rate for the bonds is approximately \$97.27 per year for a home with an assessed value of \$100,000.

**NORTH MORROW
VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT**

25-74 Four-Year Local Option Levy Renewal for Vector (Mosquito) Control

Question: Shall the District impose .10 per \$1,000 of assessed value for mosquito control operations for four years beginning 2017-18?

This measure renews current local option taxes.

Summary: The North Morrow Vector Control District will use the tax revenue from this measure to provide improvements to and also maintain general operations, including the following:

- * Improve response time to West Nile virus and other emerging mosquito-borne diseases for example: Zika virus.
- * Maintain the utilization of aircraft for mosquito operations.
- * Improve outreach programs and public education efforts.
- * Increase utilization, and upgrade available technology for mosquito control operations.
- * Maintain vehicle and equipment replacement.

The proposed levy will raise approximately \$93,000 annually over 4 years for a total of \$372,000. This estimate is based on the best available information from the Morrow County Assessor, and is an ESTIMATE ONLY. This levy would cost the owner of property with an estimated value of \$100,000, \$10.00 per year. This option levy is not a new tax increase, but a continuation of the prior option levy.