



In the Capitol...

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State Representative Vicki Berger

In This Issue:

Features

- Common Sense Budget
- Baseball Bill
- Tourism Tax Bill
- Sine Die

Community Outreach

- KBZY Radio

KBZY Radio

Every **Wednesday** morning at
8:10am

This week's conversation was brief. The status on Baseball Bill (SB 5) and the Tourism Tax proposal (HB 2267) were discussed.

House Passes Common Sense Budget Protecting Schools, Seniors and Public Safety

State Representative Vicki Berger (R-Salem), voted for the budget plan that passed the House of Representatives on Wednesday.

"This **common sense** budget is fair," said Berger. "It doesn't borrow from our grandchildren's credit line, it doesn't raise taxes on those who can least likely afford it. . . it is a common sense budget that gets the job we were sent here to do in a bipartisan fashion."

Components of the **Common Sense Budget** include:

- Funding for K-12 schools that will ensure a complete school year, more teachers and small class sizes
- A jobs package that included additional dollars for workforce development
- Increased funding for community colleges, state universities and student assistance programs
- Saves the Oregon Health Plan and protects services to seniors and Oregon's most vulnerable citizens

The **common sense budget** includes a temporary 3 year income tax surcharge that, for the average family with a median income of \$42,000 per year, would cost only \$3.00 dollars a month.

"This Legislature has made a decision to put our state's priorities. . . education, protection of seniors and vulnerable Oregonians, and public safety ahead of political posturing and name calling. This is a tough time in our state's history and this is the time for this legislature to come together and finish the job we were sent here to do," concluded Berger.

For more information about the tax surcharge, please visit [Rep. Berger's state web site at www.leg.state.or.us/berger/home.htm](http://Rep.Berger's%20state%20web%20site%20at%20www.leg.state.or.us/berger/home.htm). Click on **News** on the menu bar at the bottom of the screen.

Sine Die Approaches

There are only a few items left on the to-do list for the 72nd Legislative Assembly. With an approved revenue package, all that remains is a few adjustments to agency budgets.

The Speaker of the House asked legislators to work through the weekend. Speculation on an exact date as to when the body will adjourn is rumored all over the building. Every legislator, lobbyist, staff member and media outlet have their own predictions.

Representative Berger estimates that the legislative assembly will sine die on Tuesday, **August 26th** at **11:30pm**.

Average Tax Impact from Graduated Surtax

Joint Returns

Joint Returns	Surtax
Less than \$10k	\$0/month
\$10k - \$20k	\$0/month
\$20k - \$30k	\$1/month
\$30k - \$40k	\$1/month
* \$40k - \$50k	\$3/month
\$50k - \$70k	\$7/month
\$70k - \$100k	\$15/month
\$100k - \$200k	\$31/month
\$70k - \$100k	\$158/month

Single Returns

Single Returns	Surtax
Less than \$10k	\$0/month
\$10k - \$20k	\$0/month
\$20k - \$30k	\$2/month
\$30k - \$40k	\$4/month
\$40k - \$50k	\$5/month
\$50k - \$70k	\$9/month
\$70k - \$100k	\$16/month
\$100k - \$200k	\$32/month
\$70k - \$100k	\$161/month

* Median Oregon family income

Baseball Bill Strikes Out in Senate

"Strike three, your out!" **SB 5**, the reincarnation of the baseball bill failed to pass in the Senate on Friday, **August 22nd**.

The Senate voted **11-19**, preventing the bill from advancing to home plate (Governor's office).

Senator Ryan Deckert (D-Beaverton), who carried the bill, served notice of possible reconsideration of the bill.

Tourism Tax advances to Senate

HB 2267, the Tourism Tax proposal has advanced to the Senate. The House of Representatives approved the bill on a **51-8** vote on **August 18th**.