



Issue 2, 1/28/05

In the Capitol...

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State Representative Vicki Berger

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Community Outreach

- KBZY Radio
- West Salem Business Association
- Salem Chamber of Commerce Agriculture Banquet

KBZY Radio

Every Wednesday Morning
at 8:10am

There is SO MUCH that happens during the months that the Legislative Assembly is in session. How does one sift through all of the information coming out of the Capitol and focus only on the issues that are most important to you?

Listen to [KBZY Radio](#) every [Wednesday](#) morning at 8:10 am. Rep. Berger will give a brief (10 minutes) overview of what is happening at the Capitol and what legislation might interest you.

General Government Tackles First Objective: Regulatory Streamlining

“Regulatory Streamlining” has been the focus of the [General Government committee](#) in the first weeks of the session. Legislation from last session mandated a study of regulations in Oregon, looking for ways to make state government [more accessible and responsive](#).

State agencies participated in a process to look at rules and regulations with the goal of finding those which no longer made sense and were seen as [unnecessary](#) to any constituent groups involved.

The General Government committee has started hearing proposed statute changes as part of this process. Generally these are small changes to the laws which individually do not make much difference but over time will help the state, and those who are regulated by agencies, spend less time on things like useless paperwork. Here is an example:

[HB 2095](#) proposes to remove the requirement of having a notarized signature on several applications. The important question is: When is a notary a necessity for protection and when is it simply a barrier to completing an application process? The General Government committee will be hearing testimony to determine the value of this and other similar ideas over the course of the next couple of weeks.

Revenue Committee Goes on Field Trip to State Agencies

Members of the [House Revenue committee](#) are taking a hands on approach to learning about the operations of state government . . . they are touring the facilities.

During the previous two Fridays ([1/28/05](#) and [1/21/05](#)), the Revenue committee, has traveled to a state agency and have been given a tour of the facility and experienced first hand the day-to-day operations.

On [Jan. 28](#), the Revenue committee traveled to the [Oregon Liquor Control Commission's](#) central warehouse in Milwaukie to review Oregon's unique system of distilled liquor sales. On [Jan. 21](#), the Revenue committee traveled to the [Oregon Lottery Commission's](#) facility in Salem to discuss the addition of line games and other such issues involving the lottery.

24-Hour School Zone Update

[HB 2365](#) has been assigned to the [House Transportation Committee](#). We are waiting for the bill to be scheduled for a hearing. We anticipate that the bill will be scheduled for a hearing in early March.

Rep. Berger has requested that an [evening meeting](#) be scheduled to give ample opportunity to hear public testimony.

Rep. Berger Hosts First Honorary Page

Rep. Berger hosted the first [Honorary Page](#) of the 73rd Legislative Session. [Anna Liese Machado](#), visited the Capitol on Wednesday, Jan. 27.

Anna Liese is [13 years old](#). She is home schooled, but plans on attending West Salem High School next year. She enjoys dancing and singing. Anna recently began taking a course in American Sign Language at Chemeketa Community College.



Testimony in House Audits Committee

On [Thursday, Jan. 27](#), Rep. Berger testified in front of the House Audits Committee. [House Bill 2028](#) was the topic of conversation.

Originally, [HB 2028](#) was a bill that strengthened the audit functions of the Legislature and improved coordination with the Secretary of State's Audits Division.

Since the beginning of the session, some additions/changes have been suggested. Rep. Berger was speaking to those additions/changes.