



OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

**OFFICE OF THE SENATE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF THE HOUSE SPEAKER**

**NEWS RELEASE**

Contact: Robin Maxey  
(503) 986-1605

[robin.maxey@state.or.us](mailto:robin.maxey@state.or.us)

Geoff Sugerman  
(503) 986-1200

[geoff.sugerman@state.or.us](mailto:geoff.sugerman@state.or.us)

October 14, 2009

**COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO WRITE  
BALLOT TITLES FOR MEASURES 66 AND 67**

(SALEM) – Senate President Peter Courtney and House Speaker Dave Hunt today named Senator Richard Devlin and Representative Arnie Roblan to co-chair the committee that will draft ballot titles for Measures 66 and 67. The bipartisan six-member committee – three from both chambers – is required to finalize its ballot title by October 26.

Senate appointees include Senator Devlin (D-Tualatin), Senator Chris Telfer (R-Bend ) and Senator Diane Rosenbaum (D-Portland). On the House side, Speaker Hunt has named Rep. Roblan (D-Coos Bay), Rep. Vicki Berger (R-Salem) and Rep. Chris Garrett (D-Lake Oswego).

“The committee will write a ballot title that will make it clear to voters what they are voting on,” said Senate President Peter Courtney.

Typically, writing a ballot title takes a minimum of 35 days to run through the offices of the Attorney General and the Secretary of State before the Supreme Court can review the title. Because the election is set for January 26 and ballots to overseas and military voters are due out on December 12, it is necessary to expedite the process.

In the case of Measures 66 and 67, lawmakers also created an expedited appeal process directly to the Oregon Supreme Court. According to the bill, should the Supreme Court decide the ballot title does not meet statutory requirements, the bill directs the Supreme Court to ask the Attorney General to write the final ballot title.

“The committee will first meet to receive public testimony before approving any ballot titles. We have expedited the process for appealing the committee’s actions to the Oregon Supreme Court, which would then have the final say on the language voters will see on the ballot for the January

election,” said Speaker Hunt. “Because of the short timeframes, we put a process in place that gives proponents and opponents of the measures ample opportunity to comment on the ballot title language.”

Along with the ballot titles for the two measures, the committee was asked by the Legislature to approve “yes” and “no” statements and summaries of the measures. That language can also be appealed to the Supreme Court.

A co-chairs draft of the ballot titles for the two measures, the “yes” and “no” statements and the summaries of the measures will be posted on the internet at 9 a.m. Monday at [http://www.leg.state.or.us/jcomm66\\_67.html](http://www.leg.state.or.us/jcomm66_67.html).

The Joint Committee on Ballot Measures 66 and 67 will meet at 1 p.m. Tuesday, October 20; and at 1 p.m. Wednesday, October 21. To sign up to receive meeting notices and agendas for the Joint Committee on Ballot Measures 66 and 67 via email, click the following link [http://service.govdelivery.com/service/subscribe.html?code=ORLEG\\_528](http://service.govdelivery.com/service/subscribe.html?code=ORLEG_528).