

# Whisnant's Weekly

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## FOR THE RECORD

### *Bills Sponsored by Representative Whisnant* **House Bill 2595**

Allows government entities to provide pesticides to homeowners' association.

- Passed the House, 3/10;
- Referred to Senate Committee on Environment & Land Use
- Public Hearing held.
- Passed out of Committee, 4/27
- Passed the Senate unanimously, 5/6
- Signed by the Governor, 5/25

### **House Bill 2833**

Continues and modifies authority of Juvenile Crime Prevention Advisory Committee to allow use of crime prevention funds for younger children.

- Referred to Subcommittee on Criminal Law
- Public Hearing held
- Passed out of subcommittee, 5/3
- Passed out of Judiciary Committee, 5/13
- Passed the House unanimously, 6/2
- Referred to the Senate Rules Committee
- Passed out of committee, 6/30
- Passed the Senate unanimously, 7/1

### **House Bill 2964**

Eliminates offset of State School Fund grant for property taxes of school district that are imposed on new construction.

- Referred to Revenue committee
- Public Hearing held, 4/13
- Work group meeting, 4/28
- Public Hearing held, 5/6

### **House Bill 3029**

Transfers Juvenile Crime Prevention Advisory Committee from Oregon Criminal Justice Commission to State Commission on Children and Families.

- Referred to Health & Human Services Committee
- Public Hearing held, 4/28
- Passed out of committee, 5/4
- Referred to Budget by prior reference
- Hearing held, 6/1
- Passed out of committee, 6/10
- Passed the House 53-1, 6/15
- Referred to Senate Rules Committee
- Passed out of committee, 6/24
- Passed the Senate unanimously, 6/27

*Dear Friends,*

*I received some good comments about last week's report on the House recesses and the financial challenges legislators face in helping you and performing our numerous responsibilities. If you have questions about what happens in Salem, please ask and we'll try to explain the legislative processes. SB 1084 addresses this issue by creating a 30 member Public Commission on the Oregon Legislature. It will review and make recommendations on all aspects of the legislative branch, including the timing, frequency, and length of sessions, legislative procedures and the adequacy of legislative facilities and staffing.*

*The House and Senate leadership continue to meet for long negotiating sessions including weekends to reach an agreement on the budget. We had floor sessions on Monday thru Thursday and then recessed for the weekend. The Senate also will not be meeting over the weekend. On Tuesday and Thursday the House Budget Committee and subcommittees had work sessions and passed bills.  
Best, Gene*

## **Deschutes Mitigation Bill Passes Senate**

The Deschutes River Basin Mitigation Bill passed the Senate on Tuesday and the House concurred with the Senate amendments on Thursday. Now all we need is the Governor's signature, and he has already promised to sign it.

## **Homeless Veterans Awareness Ride**

Last Friday, Josie and I attended a reception for Gary Rishforth hosted by the Central Oregon Veterans Organization. Gary is a Vietnam veteran from Medford who is riding his horse across the US to raise awareness about the plight of homeless veterans. Gary began his ride on Saturday morning from the Bend Armory. Based upon my past involvement with the Homeless Leadership Council, I know we do have too many veterans who are homeless and many are not aware of the assistance available to him. That is why I was glad to vote for HB 2932 which creates the Department of Veterans

**House Bill 3214**

Creates an appeal process if a child support recipient is unable to file correct paperwork in time.

- Assigned to Subcommittee on Civil Law
- Public Hearing held
- Incorporated into Senate Bill 1050

**House Bill 3471**

Imposes minimum fine for persons convicted of felony if court determines that conduct on which the conviction is based occurred while person was engaged in performance of their duties as official or employee, or that person was able to engage in conduct because of person's job or position.

- Referred to Judiciary Subcommittee on Civil Law
- Public Hearing held, 5/3
- Passed out of committee, 5/6
- Passed the House 46-13, 5/23
- Referred to Rules Committee

**Senate Bill 538; Chief Sponsor**

Repeals sunset limiting establishment of guest ranches.

- Public Hearing held 2/21
- Passed out of committee, 5/10
- Passed the Senate 25-3, 5/18
- Referred to Land Use
- Public Hearing held; Passed Committee, 6/1
- Passed the House, 6/7
- Governor signed, 6/20

Affairs and provides an opportunity to use an old Bend fire station for a shelter and transitional housing for homeless veterans.

**State Republican Party Meeting**

On Saturday, I welcomed the State Republican Party to the Eagle Crest resort for their annual meeting. Kevin Mannix resigned as chair of the party and Vance Day was elected as the new chair. Then, Russ Walker was elected as the vice-chair.

**Sunriver Community Events**

Since I was in District for the weekend, Josie and I participated Saturday in the Sunriver Anglers Annual Fish Fry and the Sunriver mall festivities sponsored by the Sunriver Chamber of Commerce. At the events, I had the opportunity to informally update friends on the session and discuss and receive feedback on some bills like the Deschutes River Basin mitigation rules and the House meth package bills.