



Business *perspectives*

March/April 2021

...to strengthen, enhance, and protect our members through political advocacy, economic development, community promotion and member programs and services.

In Defense of Our Local Business Community

Roseburg Chamber Representing the Interests of Business in Salem and Washington, D.C.

The Roseburg Area Chamber of Commerce has been busy this year representing business interests during the 2021 Oregon Legislative Session and the 117th U.S. Congress.

To date, nearly 4200 bills have been proposed during the Oregon state session, which began with committee days in mid-January. The pandemic has greatly changed how the public's participation in the public process occurs. While there have been a few bright spots like better than anticipated revenue projections, much proposed legislation, if passed, would have adverse impacts to business. In any year, the chamber would oppose such legislation, but with the unprecedented adverse impacts our businesses have endured this past year due to COVID restrictions and devastating wildfires, it is even more paramount this year.

Check out the [2021 legislative calendar](#). Key dates that will govern this year's session over the next couple of months are (1) a March 19 deadline for original committee "work session" posting; (2) April 13 is the deadline for original committee "work sessions," and May 14 is the posting deadline for second chamber "work sessions." Pursuant to Oregon's Constitution, sine die is June 27, 2021.

The Roseburg Area Chamber voiced its position and submitted written testimony on a number of bills and issues over the past couple of months. Following is a recap of some of the chamber's advocacy activity:

2021 Oregon Legislative Session

RACC Opposes:

- SB 137-1: This amendment is a tax increase on Oregon businesses, as the proposed amendment would disconnect Oregon businesses from the benefits of the bipartisan CARES Act legislation, which would raise taxes by \$115 million on Oregon businesses.
- SB 139: Repeal of the Oregon Small Business Tax Cut.
- SB 716: Requires employers to reasonably accommodate employee's work schedule availability related to childcare.

see Legislature, page 2

Mark Your Calendars

Membership Meeting Dates

May 17
September 20
October 18
November 15

Project Leadership 2021-22

Starts September 9

"After Hours"

Look for Summer and Fall Dates TBA

PPE for Roseburg Businesses

RACC Continues Free PPE Distribution

The Roseburg Area Chamber through a partnership with the city of Roseburg continues to provide free PPE to Roseburg businesses. The PPE available includes: 3-ply ear-loop disposal masks, washable reusable cloth masks, non-surgical KN95 masks, pump-bottle hand sanitizer, antibacterial wipes and disposable nitrile gloves.

To receive the no-cost PPE, businesses should apply through the chamber's website at its [COVID-19 Business Recovery Resource Center Library](#) or click [HERE!](#) In order to get the form to send properly you must download the PDF to your computer desktop and fill it out from there. Please call 541-672-2648 if you have any questions about the process. We look forward to helping as many businesses as possible during this ongoing Covid crisis.

2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Legislature/RACC Advocacy *(Continued)*

2021 Oregon Legislative Session

RACC Opposes:

- HB 2043: Directs insurer to consider only specified information in determining rates for motor vehicle liability insurance policies, disallowing currently used tools such as credit, education and occupation, resulting in higher automobile insurance costs.
- HB 2205: If passed, this bill would deputize third parties/plaintiffs' attorneys to file class action lawsuits against employers for any violation of Oregon law--wage and hour, workplace safety, etc.
- HB 2253: Proposal to tax Paycheck Projection (PPP) loans.
- HB 2379 and HB 2598: These bills propose new timber taxes at the worst possible time in light of the pandemic and the devastating wildfires of 2020.
- HB 2474: Major expansion of Oregon's family leave law to require that family leave provisions apply to all businesses as small as one employee (currently it's 25 or more). Expands leave to include the closure of school or daycare as leave, expands definition of "family member," and reduces the waiting period for employee eligibility under OFLA from 180 days to 30 days.
- HB 2674-1 Amendment: If passed, the legislation would levy a full suite of new taxes to fund diesel engine retrofits and replacements with large impacts on construction, trucking and agriculture. In 2019, legislators on both sides of the aisle passed legislation to phase out older diesel engines in the Portland metropolitan area and make smart investments in newer technologies. The bill that ultimately passed, HB 2007, was a compromise to encourage the retrofit and replacement of older on-road engines in heavy traffic areas, while exempting ag trucks, log trucks and small truck fleets.
Unfortunately, just two years later, that agreement is already falling apart. The amendment to HB 2674 completely rewrites the bill imposing a suite of new taxes on Oregonians to fund clean diesel engine retrofits and replacements:
 - 3% excise tax on the retail sale of tires;
 - 5% privilege tax for businesses who sell or lease off-road equipment;
 - 5% use tax on off-road diesel equipment purchased outside of Oregon;
 - 5% rental tax for rentals of off-road diesel equipment;
 - 2% rental tax for rentals of all other qualified heavy equipment (note: this tax goes to counties not diesel retrofits);
 - Privilege tax on heavy-duty trucks and light-duty vehicles; and
 - Gas tax on all red dyed diesel used in off-road equipment.
- HB 3305: Proposed legislation would begin to ban the sale of "petroleum" diesel by "non-retail dealers" as soon as 2024 in Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties and statewide by 2027.
- HB 2814: "Indirect Source Program" that would give DEQ broad regulatory authority for permitting and construction of facilities that indirectly emit greenhouse gases.
- HB 2839: House counterpart to SB 137, which would disconnect Oregon from Federal CARES Act tax provisions that allow for the immediate monetization of businesses losses through the tax code to help with cash flow issues as a result of the pandemic.
- HB 3296: If passed, this bill would increase beer and wine taxes to nearly 30 times their current levels. This bill is the largest tax on beer, wine, cider and spirits ever proposed in the U.S.

see Legislature, page 3



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www.RoseburgChamber.com

Got News?



Douglas County Farmers Co-op celebrates 100 years of service to Douglas County farmers, ranchers and homeowners on April 1. Congratulations, DC Farmers Co-op and here's to another 100 years!

Welcome New Member

System Consulting

Joshua Knox
1253 NW Highland St.
Roseburg, OR 97470
(541) 696-5555
www.systeme.io

System Consulting offers reliable and cost-effective solutions through innovation and advancements in technology. Providing managed and professional IT services, large scale wireless, voice services, software development, cybersecurity services and more.



Shout out to another RACC member and long-time Douglas County business! This year, **Con-Vey** celebrates 75 years of business in Roseburg, serving companies throughout the world!

Legislature/RACC Advocacy *(Continued)*

2021 Oregon Legislative Session

RACC Supports:

- SB 330: Income Tax Credit for Rent Forgiveness.
- SB 842: Eliminates state taxes on federal stimulus checks.
- SB 531: Would establish a right to reimbursement for actual damages resulting from cessation of business operations required by emergency rules or orders.
- HB 2638: Would limit liability for Oregon employers following COVID directives.
- HB 3177: This bill, if passed, would prevent the Governor from shutting down restaurants and gyms in any further emergency declaration.

Federal Legislation & Issues

In a February 1 letter to Congress, RACC joined a coalition of chambers and business organizations throughout the U.S. urging the members of the United States Congress to pass temporary liability protections related to the COVID-19 pandemic. February 1 letter to Congress.

In a February 17 letter to members of our Congressional delegation, the Roseburg Chamber urged immediate federal action post-wildfire recovery to “re-green” our forests on federal lands after devastating fires.

RACC believes that in response to last year’s wildfires, the U.S. Forest Service and the BLM should take quick action to remove dead and dying trees from burned federal lands. Swift recovery of these dead and dying trees will provide funding to help replant new trees on these devastated forests, among other benefits.

The chamber is disappointed to learn these federal agencies face opposition from anti-forestry activists when they have proposed removal on less than two percent of the total acres burned in last year’s wildfires. This means that over 120,000 acres of federally managed land in Oregon will be choked with dead and dying trees, left to fuel future wildfires.

Our “ask,” of our congressional representatives, is to urge the Forest Service and the BLM to recover and reforest these federal lands. In addition to supporting reforestation efforts, removal of dead and dying trees assures safer access on public lands, supports Oregon jobs, generates new revenues for local public services, and removes fuels and reduces the risks of “re-burns” in the future.

The chamber supports post-fire recovery of dead and dying trees and reforestation on federal lands.

Prompt removal of dead and dying trees:

- Provides funding for re-planting and other post-fire rehabilitation.
- Assures safer access on public lands.
- Supports Oregon jobs when dead and dying trees are made into wood products.
- Generates revenues for local public services such as Sheriff’s deputies and public health.
- Removes fuels and reduces the risks of “re-burns” in the future.

see Federal, page 5

Thank You Reinvesting Members!

Abby's Legendary Pizza	KPIC-TV
Associated Buyers, LLC	Land Mark Surveying, Inc.
Avista Utilities	Lithia Roseburg Auto Center
Bigfoot Beverages/Pepsi-Cola Bottling of Roseburg	Long's Building Supply
CHI Mercy Health	Meadow Creek Retirement Community
Community Cancer Center	Neuner Davidson & Co.
CSO Financial, Inc.	Nova Health
Douglas County District Attorney's Office	Oregon Eye Consultants
Douglas Electric Cooperative	Oregon Pacific Bank
Downtown Fitness & Aerobics Center	SAIF
Richard Embertson, CPA, PC	Sims Electric, Inc.
Energy Trust of Oregon	Spectrum Cleaning & Restoration
Express Employment Professionals	Super 8 - Roseburg
Family Tree Medical Clinic	TraneOregon
Farmers Insurance/John Murphy	Trout Wealth Management
First American Title Insurance Company	Tyree Oil, Inc.
Frontier Village	Umpqua Community College
Gerretsen Building Supply	Umpqua National Forest
Graphic Dimensions, Inc.	United Finance Company
Hampton Inn & Suites	US Bank
Heard Family, LLC	Western Title & Escrow
Joe's Towing & Recovery, LLC	Wildlife Safari
	WorkSource Douglas Employment Department

Increase Your Business Visibility

Opportunities on the Chamber's Website

The chamber's website offers members access to many fresh and helpful online features. Due to the increased attention and visits to the website, this is an excellent opportunity to secure a placement for your corporate banner and increase your businesses exposure. Homepage and interior page space options are available for purchase on an annual or bi-annual agreement. Your online banner will prominently feature your business logo and link to your company's website. **Claim a banner for your business today!**

Looking for other significant ways to promote your business? Purchase ad space in the chamber's Business Perspectives E-newsletter which is emailed to every RACC member each month. The e-newsletters also remain in our newsletter archives online for two years. The chamber has several ad sizes to choose from, so there's a possibility for everyone! If you purchase three or more ads within a year you will receive a 10% discount.

For more information please call (541) 672-2648, Ext. 23 or email sales@roseburgareachamber.org.

Support Local Businesses Through Shop & Save

Request Your 2021 Discount Cards

Members of the Roseburg Area Chamber of Commerce have the opportunity to participate in our annual special member-to-member Shop Chamber & Save Program! Chamber member businesses offer discounts to fellow chamber members to build rapport in the business community, increase exposure and to grow their business.

See page 7 for a new list of participating chamber members and their offers. Call (541) 672-2648, ext. 17, or send an email to assistant@roseburgareachamber.org and request your 2021 discount cards for you and your employees. Some restrictions apply.

Support local businesses and your fellow chamber members and save money! Request your discount cards today!

RACC Priorities Mirror Member Priorities

Membership Survey Results Are In

In a 2020 year-end survey of the membership, Roseburg Area Chamber of Commerce members helped established the priorities for the chamber for 2021 and beyond. The chamber focuses on four core areas in its service and support of Douglas County businesses. The chamber asked its members to rank these four areas of emphasis, in order of priority for their individual businesses.

These long-standing four guiding principles are: work to strengthen our local economy, represent and defend business interests with government, promote local business and the community as a whole, and provide networking events.

The voice of our members was loud and clear. Just over 87% of responding members ranked working to create a strong local economy and representing business and business interests with government as their top priorities. Working to create a strong local economy narrowly edged out defending business via political advocacy, to take the top spot. This is no surprise due to the adverse impacts our businesses and community have endured due to the pandemic and related mandates.

It should, however, be noted that “working to strengthen our economy” has been the number one priority for members since the chamber first surveyed about these four core principles in 2006.

The chamber has routinely conducted a similar survey over the past 15 years. What has changed in the past 15 years is the increased priority our business members place on the chamber’s role representing business with government. This priority hasn’t just moved up the “importance hierarchy ladder” from fourth to second since that first survey, but received a record number of members ranking it as the highest priority. Said one member, “...without the advocacy work economic development and growth cannot succeed.”

The chamber will continue to focus on all four of its core priorities, in order to provide the best service and support to our broad and diverse membership. The survey results provide the chamber with guidance on what areas to expand, seek partnerships and focus its resources. Thank you to our members who took the time to let your voice be heard about chamber priorities.

Federal Issues/RACC Advocacy

(Continued)

On March 3, the Roseburg Area Chamber of Commerce added its voice to a national coalition of asking Congress to extend the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) application deadline. RACC joined hundreds of local and state chambers of commerce and business organizations across the country urging the members of the United States Congress to extend the current PPP application deadline from March 31 to December 31, 2021. Our small local businesses continue to struggle and will need access to those funds long past the current deadline at the end of this month.

On March 8, the Roseburg Area Chamber of Commerce asked members of our Congressional delegation to oppose the Protect the Right to Organize Act (PRO Act). The PRO Act would dramatically change the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA) in ways harmful to workers, employers and the economy. Among other things, the PRO Act would negatively impact workers by (1) threatening private ballots during union organizing votes; (2) nullifying Right-to-Work laws, and; (3) undermining the gig economy. While passing the House, the Act will face greater changes in the US Senate.

Business Perspectives Publication Deadline

Business Perspectives is an official publication of the Roseburg Area Chamber of Commerce published monthly. Chamber members are encouraged to submit items for publication.

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Copy deadline is the 10th of each month preceding the publication date. Information received after that date will be published subject to urgency and space availability.

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For advertising opportunities contact
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Awards Event on the Move

Due to ongoing in-person, indoor event restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the chamber's day of events celebrating business and recognizing distinguished individuals in our community has been postponed from the tentative date of March 18, to a date yet to be determined. As soon as in-person event restrictions are lessened and the chamber has appropriate time to secure venue(s) and finalize logistics, Roseburg Area Chamber of Commerce members will be the first to know the details about date, times, location(s) and other specifics related to businesses of the year honors, first citizen recognitions, chamber 2021 priorities and so much more.

In the meantime, look for information and links soon to a 2020 chamber activities video on our YouTube channel.

For the Roseburg Area Chamber's latest legislative and public affairs positions, check out "[CURRENT NEWS](#)" on the chamber website.

For the information and resources related to the pandemic or order PPE, visit "[COVID-19 Business Recovery Resource Center Library](#)" on the chamber website.

How to Testify During Oregon's 2021 Legislative Session

The Roseburg Area Chamber will submit written testimony on proposed legislation through Oregon's 2021 session. We will, when necessary issue a "Call to Action" or "Action Alert" to our member asking them, as well, to add their voice with businesses around the state. It is so important that our members testify or submit written testimony on bills that are important to them and our local businesses. The Oregon Legislative Assembly has established a process to accept remote verbal public testimony on bills by video or phone during this time, in addition to written public testimony.

Detailed information about how to testify in the 2021 Oregon Legislative Session is outlined in a "[How to Testify](#)" during Oregon's 2021 Legislation Session PDF document.

Here are some additional links to help you stay connected during this legislative session:

- [Oregon Legislative Information System \(OLIS\)](#)
- [Receive Bill Alerts](#)
- [Watch Committee Hearings](#)
- [Find Your Legislator](#)
- [House Committees](#)
- [Senate Committees](#)

Your chamber's primary objective is to represent the interests of and advocate for our local business community. The chamber has its legislative and public affairs agenda and positions in place. We will monitor legislative activities daily throughout the session, and act on behalf of our businesses whenever pertinent. The chamber will continue to join with the Oregon State Chamber of Commerce, other chambers, and business organizations around the state to make sure the voice of business is heard. Look for "Calls to Action" during the 2021 session and don't hesitate to contact the chamber if you become aware of proposed legislation potentially adverse to business, or if you have any questions about the session or chamber positions.



CHAMBER

\$HOP

&

\$AVE

Show your Roseburg Area Chamber of Commerce Discount Card at these participating locations.
Discounts good through December 31, 2021.

Alanson Randol, DDS

(541) 673-7437

www.drrandol.com

Free new patient exam with all new free oral cancer screening and X-ray's at first appointment.

Ashley HomeStore

(541) 900-1555

www.AshleyHomeStore.com

**\$200 off your \$500 purchase,
\$400 off your \$1000 purchase.**
(Based off regular tag price.)

Bell Sister Flats (Air B&B)

(541) 580-6302

www.bellsisterflats.com

5% discount on stay.

BP Media Solutions, Inc.

(541) 643-1085

www.gobpmedia.com

Free 30 minute consultation.

Budget Blinds of Roseburg

(541) 216-4723

www.budgetblinds.com

25% off window coverings (with select manufacturers).

Downtown Fitness & Aerobics

(541) 673-4848

www.downtownfitnessandaerobics.com

Waive Initiation Fee (\$99 value).
(Based off regular tag price.)

Express Employment Professionals

(541) 673-3332

www.expressroseburg.com

\$60 off first invoice.

Fisher's Hearth and Home

(541) 672-0306

www.fishershearhandhome.com

\$25 discount on all gas and pellet stove cleaning.

Graphic Dimensions

(541) 672-3812

www.graphicdimensions.us

10% off business card orders.

Holiday Inn Express

(541) 673-7517

www.hiexpress.com/roseburgor-ex

10% off best available rate.
(Some date restrictions may apply.)

Joe's Towing & Recovery, LLC

(541) 672-4388

www.joestowing.net

15% off retail towing service.

Makena Beach Tan & Boutique

(541) 677-7264

www.makenatan.com

One free L1/L2 tan for new members, or one free additive with VERSA spa spray session.
(Not valid with other coupons.)

Oregon Tool & Supply

(541) 672-1935

www.oregontoolandsupply.com

10% off regular priced merchandise.
(Excludes services & special orders.)

Overhead Door Company of Roseburg

(541) 673-4802

www.odcroseburg.com

5% off window covering purchases.

Super 8 Motel

(541) 672-8880

www.stayinroseburg.com

10% off best available rate.

This could be your special member to member discount offer!

Wildlife Safari

(541) 679-6761

www.wildlifesafari.net

Buy one ticket for admission and get one free.

(Not valid with any other offers)

This could be your special member to member discount offer!