Coba’s Capitol Comments

ACEC National

- Free online classes re: COVID 19 responses – April 2 & April 7
- Engineering Influence podcasts – Coronavirus gov’t affairs update + Macroeconomic outlook

Coba’s Capitol Comments

April begins with continued uncertainty in so many areas of our lives. The Oregon legislature can be added to the mix. While Congress was able to cobble together a $2 trillion package Oregon’s elected leaders continue to work on a plan, timeframe and goals of a rumored special session. Holding up the immediate action is ongoing partisanship, still assessing the federal package’s impact on Oregon, and potentially the May revenue forecast which will be a major factor Oregon’s ability to spend on important programs.

The Joint Committee on Coronavirus Response met four times in the past two weeks and forwarded on suggestions for action to their respective chambers. In response to a strong lobbying effort by business interests to repeal the first two quarterly payments of the new Corporate Activities Tax (CAT) the Committee suggested refiling HB 4009 from the 2020 session which made changes for dairy and farm interests. This falls well short of the concept forwarded by business entities including ACEC.

The Committee did draft the following document to outline their conversations and outcomes with priorities including housing, food and healthcare certainly.

https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2019I1/Downloads/CommitteeMeetingDocument/221730

May 19 primary candidates continue to campaign in a new and undefined world that includes no meetings and limited interpersonal contacts. The advantage will go to candidates who are well funded and can fill the airwaves with advertisements and endorsements. In one of the leading statewide primary races, Secretary of State candidate state Senator Shemia Fagan continues to pick up union endorsements in her race against state Senator Mark Hass and others.

Free online classes re: COVID 19 responses

- **Navigating Your Small Firm Through the COVID-19 Crisis** - April 2
  What should your small firm do next in response to COVID-19? This complimentary online class will explore HR issues, updating procedures that you may have found lacking, and financial strategies for firm operations.

- **You’re Not Alone: Tools for Living and Working in Uncertain Times** - April 7
  Personal resilience is a matter of preparation, self-awareness, and the ability to know what you need. Right now, all of us are facing—to varying degrees—radical change and unprecedented uncertainty. Join this crash course in managing our energy, our attention, and our emotions through this tumultuous time.

ACEC Engineering Influence podcasts

RECENT

- **The Macroeconomic Outlook with Anirban**
- **Coronavirus special: Government Affairs Update for 3-28-20**

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