Coba’s Capitol Comments

The COVID-19 special session in Salem began today with Senate Republicans already finding fault with the session rules and voting against them. Republican Leader Senator Fred Girod, R-Stayton, noted that the lack of quality public input as well as an inability to create or amend bills was a major issue for his caucus. Senate President Peter Courtney, D-Salem, moved forward with the rules for the 42nd special session in Oregon history.

The session will be run by one committee, the Joint Interim Committee on the First Special Session 2020 which is co-chaired by Sen. Courtney and Speaker Tina Kotek, D-Portland. This hand-picked committee of seven senators including Lew Frederick, Kim Thatcher, Tim Knopp, Ginny Burdick, Fred Girod and Floyd Prozanski along with seven representatives including Christine Drazen, Janelle Bynum, Rick Lewis, Paul Holvey, Andrea Salinas and Duane Stark and Speaker Kotek. They have three scheduled hearings beginning today at 10:00 A.M. and 1:00 P.M. and tomorrow at 10:00 A.M. A list of bills has been culled from a larger list that held preliminary hearings on Monday and Tuesday. The bills will deal with law enforcement policy changes, health care, small rural schools, a forestry memorandum of understanding, broadband,
meat processing, CAT tax changes and other issues. The session may adjourn by Saturday.

Special session committee details here:
https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2020S1/Committees/J1SS/Overview

A second special session dealing with the state budget will be held later in July. Legislative leaders remain hopeful that Congress will pass another significant package with funds for state and local governments to maintain key programs.

International Women in Engineering Day

Yesterday was International Women in Engineering Day and ACEC and wants to share some information and recognize this special day! Celebrate women who are mentors, leaders, colleagues, rising stars and those just starting out. Learn more below and watch the video.

Celebrate the good things women engineers do. Please take a look at the Resources page and think about using the Selfie Cards. This year’s theme for INWED is ‘Shape The World.’ http://www.inwed.org.uk/

Women (and men) all over the globe can help to raise the profile of women engineers and encourage more people to consider engineering as a profession for all.

ACEC Engineering Influence podcasts

- The Impact of Technology on Engineering – an ACEC Research Institute Roundtable

- Exploring ACEC’s Pathways to Executive Leadership

Listen on PodBean or Apple Podcasts
UPCOMING

• August 12 – Networking Day Golf Tournament, Langdon Farms

Comments? Questions? Please e-mail mwebber@acecOregon.org or adavis@acecOregon.org.

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF OREGON

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Upcoming events: http://www.acecoregon.org/calendar_list.asp.

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