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Social hour will honor ODOT Director Matt Garrett’s service to industry

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ACEC Dinner – May 23
Social hour will honor ODOT Director Matt Garrett’s service to industry.

Join us for fun, food & festivities!

Catch up on ACEC Oregon news, hear brief committee reports and vote on the 2019-20 budget.

The newly elected board of directors also will be inducted.

This is a great event to gain a good overview of the organization. It’s also an excellent event for networking with leaders and up-and-comers of Oregon and southwest Washington engineering companies.

Tropical attire encouraged!

SCHEDULE
5:00 P.M. – Social
6:00 P.M. – Dinner
6:30 P.M. – Taking care of business

WHERE
Multnomah Athletic Club
1849 SW Salmon Street
Portland, OR 97205

Click HERE for more info and to register.

See who’s already registered.
Coba’s Capitol Comments

HB 3427-A the education funding bill otherwise known as a gross receipts tax passed the House last week after 6.5 hours of debate and parliamentary maneuvering by the minority Republican House members. The bill is now in the Senate and can go directly to the floor because it was initially in the Joint Committee on Student Success. This means it doesn’t have to have more hearings nor does it need to be amended further.

All twelve of the Senate Republicans have walked away from the Capitol this week to deny the chamber a quorum to conduct business which includes a prompt passage of HB 3427-A. Minority Leader Herman Baertschiger, R-Grants Pass, has given Senate leadership a list of demands before they will return. Key among the demands is to amend HB 3427-A to reduce the burden on business and to pass legislation to reduce spending in many areas of government but most importantly PERS retirement system. These demands have yet to be accepted. Baertschiger was quoted as saying he believes the bill will ultimately pass but that the Senate Republicans need to do all they can to slow the process and hope for a better outcome.

I’ve been told by key people that the legislature doesn’t expect to amend this bill this session as they don’t want to run it back across the House floor. So, it will be fixed in February or with a technical fix bill later this session.

The link to the tax proposal in HB 3427-A is here and begins on page 34. I encourage all members to understand how it will impact your firm. It is a tax increase and the intent of the legislation is for business to pay more but it should be fair to engineering firms.

https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2019R1/Downloads/MeasureDocument/HB3427
SB 369, the bill to improve the definition of substantial completion, is expected to be scheduled for a hearing in the House Judiciary Committee on May 16.

Legislative leadership has committed to an adjournment on or by June 21 which is just 43 more days until sine die. Many key issues including potential PERS adjustments, education funding and the business activity tax, carbon regulation and the final budget for 2019-21 are yet to be finalized.

Contribute to the scholarship fund!

Consider joining your fellow member firms in creating a named scholarship ($2,500) or making a donation to the general fund.

Click HERE for more information and a pledge form, or contact mwebber@acecOregon.org.

THANK YOU, SCHOLARSHIP FUND DONORS!

UPCOMING

June 19 – Networking Day golf tournament, Langdon Farms Golf Club
Bring your clients!

COURTESY ANNOUCEMENTS


- July 11 – OSBEELS 100th Anniversary Celebration, Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI)

SAVE THE DATES
September 19-21, 2019
ACEC Oregon Fall Conference
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.

ACEC Oregon is 120 member firms strong representing more than 3,700 employees!
Check out our online directory at http://www.acecoregon.org/AF_MemberDirectory.asp.

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