



PLAN
Political & Legislative
Action Network
AFT in Oregon



2011 Legislative Action

Contents

Introduction.....	4
Members Serve As Driving Force	4
PLAN Legislative Education Day.....	5
Summary of Legislation.....	6
Education	6
■Budgets	6
■High Quality Schools	7
Revenue and Taxation.....	10
Union Rights and Retirement Security	11
Health Care	12
Additional Priorities.....	12
Legislative Scorecard.....	13
Legislative Teams	17
Index	18

AFT-Oregon
AFT, AFL-CIO
7035 SW Hampton Street
Tigard, Oregon 97223
www.aft-oregon.org

PLAN
Political & Legislative
Action Network
AFT in Oregon

OSEA
AFT Local 6732
4735 Liberty Road, South
Salem, Oregon 97302
www.osea.org

Introduction

"When our members come to the Capitol or contact their legislator at home, it adds a new awareness and energy to the discussion about school funding or workers' rights. There is nothing like the face-to-face contact of our members with their legislators to bring the issues we discuss every day at the Capitol into focus."

Tricia Smith,
OSEA Government
Relations
Specialist

AFT in Oregon works each legislative session in Salem to advance the interests of 33,000 members on hundreds of bills that impact our working lives. The 2011 Legislative Session marked the first year that AFT-Oregon and Oregon School Employees Association (OSEA), AFT Local 6732, coordinated legislative efforts under the Political and Legislative Action Network (PLAN). PLAN was formed to provide a unified approach to the public on political and legislative matters, including identification of joint legislative objectives.

AFT in Oregon members reside in every legislative district in Oregon. Employment is in both private and public sectors and ranges from elementary and high schools, education service districts, library districts, Head Start and child care centers, community colleges and four-year colleges and institutions, to health care clinics and hospitals, parks and recreation districts. AFT members work as classified employees, faculty, instructors, graduate teachers, and in early education and health care professions. AFT is the largest affiliate of the Oregon AFL-CIO.

Each cycle, legislative priorities are established by AFT-Oregon, based on adopted convention resolutions, and OSEA, as approved by their Board of Directors. For 2011, AFT-Oregon and OSEA created a joint PLAN 2011 Legislative Priorities. This document, which was distributed to the legislature, identified shared priorities as well as those specific to OSEA or AFT-Oregon. Of the thousands of bills introduced each session, this *Legislative Action* report is limited to the most prominent considered during the 2011 session.



Members Serve as Driving Force

AFT in Oregon members roamed the halls of the State Capitol this legislative session, meeting with legislators, attending committee hearings, testifying on bills, marching in rallies and attending Legislative Education Day (LED). They volunteered their time to advocate for increased funding for education, to improve the quality of health care and to provide input for proposed changes that impact members' day-to-day lives.

"OSEA battled all session to stop legislation that would replace the student transportation state reimbursement with block grant funding," said Anne Kemp, President of David Douglas Chapter 40. Kemp was among those who met face-to-face with legislators at the Capitol during LED.

"I came to let my legislators know that the current 70 percent state reimbursement of student transportation costs is critical for our district; without it we would not be able to fund transportation to our students to and from school," said Kemp.

Thank you to the following AFT in Oregon members who testified on behalf of members in the 2011 legislative session.

AFT-Oregon

Bob Baldwin, Local 2417 (LCCEF) President
Candia Elliot, Local 2277 (PCCFFAP)
Sandra Ferguson, Local 2277 (PCCFFAP)
Teri Mills, Local 2277 (PCCFFAP)
Mark Perlman, Local 2278 (WOUFT)
Emily Plec, Local 2278 (WOUFT) President
Larry Reaney, Local 3922 (PCCFCE)
David Rives, AFT-Oregon President
Tracee Wells, Local 2277 (PCCFFAP)

OSEA, AFT Local 6732

Bonnie Luisi, OSEA President
Judy Kulluson, Chair, OSEA Government Relations Committee
Everice Moro, OSEA Secretary
Merlene Martin, OSEA Jr. Past President

PLAN Legislative Education Day

Some 230 AFT members in Oregon attended the PLAN Legislative Education Day at the State Capitol in Salem in March. This was the second lobby day event coordinated under PLAN.

“Lobby Day is the best way for us to reach out to Oregon’s political leaders and remind them how important it is to support Oregon’s educational system, and K-12 and higher education employees,” said Belinda Reagan, Local 111 (PFSP) president and AFT-Oregon Executive Vice-President.

“Empowering ordinary people to do extraordinary things—that’s what LED does,” said Mark Petersen, OSEA Vice-President.

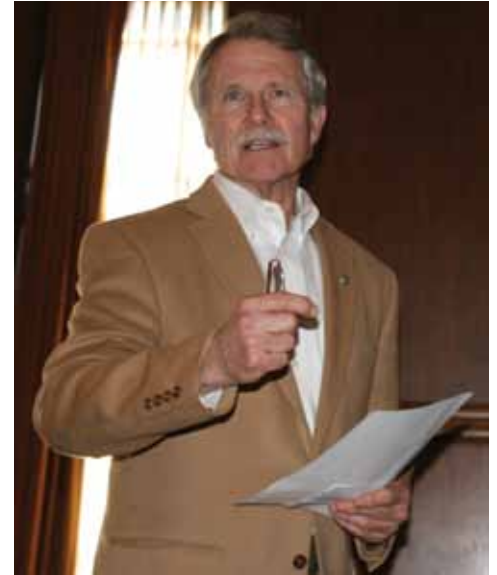
Participants came from all corners of the state to advocate for reinvestment in public education. They toured the Capitol and attended hearings. In face-to-face meetings they asked legislators to consider stories of their experiences, and the devastating effect the budget crisis is already having on education employees and the students they serve.

Among them was Kathy Krug, Local 2277 (PCCFFAP) member, who had come to Salem along with 25 other PCC classified and faculty to fight against devastating budget cuts in the Department of Human Services’ JOBS program, which would have resulted in a loss of job counseling and placement resources for thousands of unemployed Oregonians, and would have threatened positions for about 80 PCC employees.

“We’re concerned about the cuts to the JOBS program. Not only will it mean less staff to work with people in need, but it’s unrealistic to also limit job search programs to 12 weeks,” Krug shared with staff of Senator Jackie Dingfelder.

Governor Kitzhaber met with attendees, and proclaimed March 7-11, 2011, Classified Employees Week in Oregon, in recognition of classified employees working hard at K-12 schools, colleges and universities around the state. Other special guest speakers included State Treasurer Ted Wheeler, Superintendent of Public Instruction Susan Castillo, Secretary of State Kate Brown, and Oregon Labor Commissioner Brad Avakian.

AFT-Oregon President David Rives and OSEA President Bonnie Luisi were among the special guest speakers at the event, which highlighted the need for creation of living wage jobs to get Oregon’s economy back on track.



Kitzhaber holds proclamation declaring March 7-11, 2011, Classified Employees Week.



OSEA member Isabelle Wardrop cheers for jobs.



Left: Local 2417 (LCCEF) members Rodger Gamblin (Left), and Bob Baldwin (Right) at the Oregon AFL-CIO jobs rally.

Summary of Major Legislation

The following is a summary of major pieces of legislation central to PLAN's legislative priorities. In addition are highlights of bills supported by either AFT-Oregon or OSEA.

STATE GENERAL FUND/LOTTERY SUPPORT

YEAR	K-12 (Support Fund)	Community Colleges	Oregon University System
2007-09	\$6,240 ¹	\$500	\$844
2009-11	\$6,000 ²	\$432 ³	\$824 ⁵
2011-13	\$5,725 ⁴	\$410	\$692 ⁶

¹ All figures expressed in millions of dollars

² Includes \$56-million from American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) federal stimulus funds.

³ After allotment cuts and addition of Education Stability Funds (ESF)

⁴ Includes \$342-million from ARRA funds

⁵ includes \$71-million from ARRA funds

⁶ Includes \$30-million from ESF

Education

A. Budget

The start of the 2011 Session was greeted with a decline of \$3.5-billion in available state funds for all education, health care, senior services, public safety and other programs. Measure 5, which drastically limited property tax revenues, is at the center of the long decline in funding for public education in Oregon.

Pre-K funding (HB 5020)

AFT-Oregon: Neutral; OSEA: Oppose

Status: Signed by Governor

Oregon supplements the federally-funded Head Start programs to increase the number of eligible children receiving early childhood education. The governor recommended a 7.4 percent increase by taking the additional revenue for the increase from the appropriation to K-12 districts and from eliminating funding to Educational Service Districts. The final amount was a slight increase over the previous biennium, but continues below what's needed to maintain current services for ensuring all eligible children are served by the program.

K-12 State School Funding (HB 5552)

AFT-Oregon: Neutral; OSEA: Oppose

Status: Signed by the Governor

The legislature passed a budget of \$5.725-billion, nearly \$3-billion less than the amount needed, under the Quality Education Model, for a quality education program for students in Oregon.

Community College Support (HB 5011)

AFT-Oregon: Neutral; OSEA: Oppose

Status: Signed by the Governor

The community college support fund budget was set at \$410-million. But, \$14.5-million was set aside for release by the Legislature in its February 2012 session, assuming all revenue estimates continue as forecast.

Community College TANF/JOBS Program (HB 5030)

AFT-Oregon: Neutral; OSEA: Oppose

Status: Signed by Governor

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families/JOBS, caught up in the budget cutting, took a massive hit dropping from \$115-million to \$50-million. Members' advocacy resulted in \$12-million added back. Members will be in frontline conversations about providing a different model of workforce related services to TANF recipients in the near future.

Oregon University System (SB 5532)

PLAN: Neutral

Status: Signed by Governor

The final budget reflects a continuing, systemic disinvestment in post-secondary education. Large campuses are allowed to raise tuition up to nine percent in any given year, or average not more than eight percent growth over two years. Tuition increases at regional campuses are limited to 7.5 percent in any given year, or average not more than 6.5 percent for two years. In an important victory, AFT-Oregon worked with SEIU to secure a budget note treating administrators similar to faculty and staff, so that if there are reductions to the total compensation for staff and/or faculty because of cuts, management and administrators should be subject to similar reductions.

B. High Quality Schools

University System Reform/Flexibility (SB 242)

AFT-Oregon: Support; OSEA: Neutral

Status: Signed by the Governor

The new law grants Oregon University System greater autonomy and relief from state agency status, while creating a new "Higher Education Coordinating Commission." Funding for Oregon's Universities will be developed similar to K-12 and Community Colleges, and allows campuses to keep interest earned on tuition. This shift in governance will be closely monitored, especially on how campuses approach health care and retirement benefits offered to faculty and employees. (See also **HB 3418** below).

All Day Kindergarten (SB 248)

AFT-Oregon: Neutral; OSEA: Oppose

Status: Signed by the Governor

The new law allows school districts and public charter schools to offer kindergarten beyond the required half-day to full-day. Beginning with the 2015-16 school year, the State School Fund formula will be adjusted to a full amount for each enrolled, full-day kindergarten student. Opposition arose over concerns that this creates a future unfunded mandate, drawing funds away from students in districts that have neither the facilities nor resources to provide the full-day program.

Education Service District Opt-Out (SB 250)

AFT-Oregon: Neutral; OSEA: Oppose

Status: Signed by the Governor

Participating school districts are now allowed to opt-out of their Education Service District (ESD), which will result in lost funding. Also created is a new Office of Regional Educational Services (ORES), under the direction and control of the State Board of Education, and charged with establishing best practice policies and benchmarks, and providing training and support to ESD superintendents. An ORES director will be selected by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.



Local 2277 (PCCFFAP) members Kathy Krug (center) and Sherri Aytche explain to staff for Senator Jackie Dingfelder how massive cuts to the Department of Human Services JOBS program would hinder Oregon's economic recovery.

Members' Advocacy Helps Return \$12-million to JOBS Program

In May, the Human Services Subcommittee passed the CAF (Children, Adults and Families) Budget (HB 5030), which restored \$12-million to JOBS (from the Governor's recommended budget).

"Never under-estimate or devalue the power of a united cause, demonstrated by an authentic, bold, and passionate united voice," said Tracee Wells, Local 2277 (PCCFFAP). Wells was among the many AFT-Oregon members who vigorously advocated for the added funds.

The budget report from the Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO) states, "An additional \$12-million is provided for JOBS employment and training services. Within the total \$62-million available, the JOBS program will be redesigned to focus on 'job ready' and 'near job ready' clients during the 2011-13 biennium."

"The additional funds allocated to the DHS JOBS program will continue to build on the great work that many state and PCC staff have dedicated themselves to including improving the quality of livable wage jobs for Oregonians with training and job readiness workshops," said Jaime Rodriguez, Local 2277 (PCCFFAP). "It is noted that Oregon State legislators firmly believe that all Oregonians wish to work and become contributing members of their communities," he said.

Further, DHS is directed to report to the February 2012 session on the program restructuring anticipated as a result of the funding reductions. They are required to work with all stakeholders, including faculty to review program changes and develop any recommendations for potential "program improvements."

PLAN 2011 Legislative Action

Establishes 40/40/20 Goal for Oregon (SB 253)

AFT-Oregon: Support; OSEA: Oppose

Status: Signed by the Governor

The new law, developed through an interim higher education workgroup, set lofty goals for education attainment across the entire state adult population. The goals include 40 percent having a bachelors degree or higher (compared to the current 30 percent); 40 percent having an Associate, technical or similar credential (compared to the current 18 percent); and 20 percent having completed through high school (compared to the current 26 percent). A target year of 2025 is set for achieving the goals.

AFT-Oregon, through its participation in the Post-Secondary Quality Education Commission (PSQEC), helped establish the goals for revenue reform in order to fully fund educational programs at all levels.



Governor Becomes Superintendent of Public Instruction (SB 552)

PLAN: Oppose

Status: Signed by the Governor

This bill makes the Governor the Superintendent of Public Instruction following the tenure of Susan Castillo. Historically, Oregon voters twice refused measures asking for the elimination of the Superintendent. AFT members in Oregon pushed the Legislature to ask voters before eliminating long-established constitutional offices.

Tuition Equity (SB 742)

AFT-Oregon: Support; OSEA: Neutral

Status: Passed Senate; Failed to Get Vote by House

This bill provides that every Oregonian who attends high school in Oregon, regardless of documentation status, should have the opportunity to enroll in Oregon's higher education schools at the in-state tuition rate. It would bring Oregon in line with seven other Western States that recognize the benefits of ensuring all students have an opportunity to pursue higher education. The bill passed the Senate, but died in the House committee.

K-12 Mandate Relief (SB 800)

PLAN: Support

Status: Signed by the Governor

Education stakeholders, including AFT-Oregon, OSEA, OEA, OSBA, COSA, and the Department of Education, identified 28 mandates that had outlasted their need. Those deleted range from elimination of duplicate reports on race and ethnic characteristics, to removal of the Irish Potato Famine as a required subject. It also incorporates recommended methods for streamlining the education system, eliminating unnecessary costs, and reducing staff workload.

Rives nominated for Education Investment Board

AFT-Oregon President Rives has been nominated by Governor Kitzhaber to serve on the Oregon Education Investment Board (OEIB), created by 2011 Legislative action and supported by AFT-Oregon. Rives is among 12 nominees who represent a broad range of backgrounds, from teachers and school superintendents, to business leaders. All must be confirmed by the Senate.

Chaired by Governor Kitzhaber, OEIB will oversee an effort to create a seamless, unified system for investing in and delivering public education from early childhood through high school and college so that all Oregonians are well prepared for careers in our economy.

Oregon Education Investment Board (SB 909)

AFT-Oregon: Support; OSEA: Neutral

Status: Signed by the Governor

Establishing a comprehensive approach to funding Pre-K through Post-Secondary education was Governor Kitzhaber's primary education initiative in the 2011 session. The law also establishes an "Early Learning Council" to examine better coordination of Pre-K educational service delivery. It creates a Task Force to identify issues and make recommendations on governance in the various education sectors.

Weakening Oregon's Charter School Law (HB 2287)

PLAN: Oppose

Status: Died on House Floor

Oregon's Charter School Statute would have been gutted by this measure. It would have required the State Board of Education to sponsor a public charter school if it found that a district board did not negotiate with a charter applicant in good faith or in a timely manner. It would have removed the requirement for community group involvement in planning of a charter school.

PLAN 2011 Legislative Action

Vouchers for “Virtual” Charter Schools (HB 2301)

PLAN: Oppose

Status: Signed by the Governor

Out-of-state for-profit corporations gain through expanded numbers of vouchers for enrollment in online schools. Under this change, up to three percent of students in a district can be enrolled in the online school with a voucher, siphoning scarce public resources from our schools. Districts with small or declining enrollment will be encouraged to establish a virtual charter school as a mechanism to add to their student population, increasing their state education allocation. There are no provisions to assure that students and districts are protected from unscrupulous operators.

Energy Efficient School Building (HB 2960)

“Cool Schools”

PLAN: Support

Status: Signed by the Governor

Similar to AFT’s “Building Minds, Minding Buildings” campaign goals, the Jobs, Energy and Schools Fund will be used to retrofit K-12 schools to comply with Oregon’s goal of promoting clean energy. The pilot program will fund seismic retrofit and energy efficient project construction at schools.

Career Technical Education (HB 3362)

PLAN: Support

Status: Signed by the Governor

This law appropriates \$2-million to the Career and Technical Education Revitalization Grant Program. It will award grants to school districts, education service districts, public schools or public charter schools for collaboration between education providers and employers on vocational/technical education.

Task Force on Higher Education Success (HB 3418)

AFT-Oregon: Support; OSEA: Neutral

Status: Signed by the Governor

A 17-member Task Force on Higher Education Student and Institutional Success is created in response to Senate Bill 242 which called for performance compacts between higher education institutions and the State. The task force will evaluate best practices and models for achieving student success. It ensures faculty will have a voice in setting the standards.

Student Transfer Rights (HB 3521)

AFT-Oregon: Support; OSEA: Neutral

Status: Signed by the Governor

This law directs the Joint Boards of Education to develop a Transfer Bill of Rights and Responsibilities to develop a uniform method for transferring credits between the Oregon institutions of higher education. This will set standards for transferring credits from community colleges to universities, and will allow community colleges to count credits earned at universities toward associate degrees.

Weakens Oregon Charter School Law (HB 3645)

PLAN: Oppose

Status: Signed by the Governor

Under this law community colleges and public universities may sponsor a public charter school. Public charter school applicants must still make initial application to the school district where it will be located, but could also apply with the State Board of Education or a higher education institution for sponsorship.



Speaking to the labor crowd attending the March 2011 Jobs rally at the Capitol, OSEA President Bonnie Luisi calls for unity among private and public sector union members in the fight to defend collective bargaining rights and for elected representatives to make jobs priority one.



Governor Kitzhaber signed the PLAN supported “Cool Schools,” which allows energy efficiency upgrades to schools without the need for further funding from state budget.

PLAN 2011 Legislative Action

Textbook Affordability (HB 3651, HB 2963)

AFT-Oregon: Support; OSEA: Neutral

Status: Died in Committee

These bills aimed to create a task force to examine college textbook affordability.



Judy Kulluson, OSEA chair of the State Government Relations Committee and Tricia Smith, OSEA Government Relations Specialist, testify before the House Education Committee on the importance of our K12 school libraries and the librarians and library assistants who serve Oregon's students.

Open Enrollment (HB 3681)

PLAN: Oppose

Status: Signed by the Governor

This law allows students to transfer to another district without the consent of their home district. The law also specifies processes for school boards to provide consent and notification, to hold lotteries in cases of limited enrollment and to give preference to siblings of non-resident students already enrolled in district schools. There is the threat that school districts will pursue other districts' high achieving students in order to boost their own student achievement.

Revenue and Taxation

Corporations and their lobbyists entered the 2011 session in search of rollbacks after their failure in the 2010 Special Election to repeal two tax fairness measures, Measure 66 and 67. They sought cuts to taxes, such as in "capital gains," affecting the wealthiest Oregonians. Unions and other progressive groups in the Revenue Coalition fought off those attempts.

Repeal of the income tax "kicker" was entangled in the capital gains fight. PLAN continues to support repeal of the corporate and personal kickers for stability of education funding.

A. Federal Tax-Related

Reconnect to Federal Tax Code (SB 301)

PLAN: Oppose

Status: Signed by the Governor

At an estimated cost of more than \$100-million for current state programs, this law connects Oregon tax code to the federal exemptions, allowing Oregonians to deduct up to \$4,000 in education expenses from their Oregon returns, and to exclude the cost of health care for dependents ages 19 to 26.

B. State Tax Expenditures (Credits)

"New Markets" Tax Giveaway (SB 817)

PLAN: Oppose

Status: Signed by Governor

At a cost estimated up to \$78-million, which could have been used to shore up declining education and health care program funding, this law creates a state version of the Federal New Markets Tax Credit. It subsidizes Wall Street bankers for investing in already profitable investments.

Tax Expenditure Reporting (HB 2825)

PLAN: Support

Status: Signed by the Governor

To shine a light on use of tax credits and property tax abatements, this law will help Oregon taxpayers understand where more than \$350-million in tax credits for economic development went in the last two years. Without the new law, information on who receives tax expenditures, and whether the intended results actually occurred was difficult to gauge. Now, information related to credits and abatements for economic development will be posted on the Oregon transparency website.



OSEA members rallied in support of living wage jobs at the Oregon AFL-CIO Jobs Rally in March.

PLAN 2011 Legislative Action

Tax Credit/Loophole Elimination (HB 3672)

PLAN: Support

Status: Signed by the Governor

Several tax credits were sunsetted in this legislation, saving some \$368-million over the next six years.

Union Rights and Retirement Security

Unemployment Insurance for Classified and Adjunct Faculty (SB 35)

PLAN: Support

Status: Died in Committee

A PLAN effort to allow classified school employees and adjunct faculty access to unemployment compensation during school closures failed.

Forced Employee Six Percent PERS Pick-Up (SB 897)

PLAN: Oppose

Status: Failed on Senate Floor

This measure would have forced all public employees to pay the six percent employee contribution to PERS regardless of the collective bargaining agreements where, as a result of negotiations, the employer paid that share.

PERS Out-Of-State Retiree Tax Benefit Elimination (HB 2456)

PLAN: Neutral

Status: Signed by the Governor

Applying only to eligible members who retire after January 1, 2012, this law prohibits PERS from paying an increased benefit to a retiree who is not a resident of Oregon or not subject to Oregon personal income tax.

Attack on Local Collective Bargaining for School Employees (HB 3539)

PLAN: Oppose

Status: Died in Committee

This direct assault on local collective bargaining, caps the amount of total increase in compensation (wages, benefits, etc.) that a union could bargain with their K-12 school employer.

Employment Relations Board Budget (HB 5510)

PLAN: Neutral

Status: Signed by the Governor

Though this law included increases in filing and mediation fees, funding for the Employment Relations Board (ERB) was only extended for the first year of the biennium. ERB provides services to assist with labor relations disputes for over 3,000 employers and 250,000 employees in the public and private sector, as well as through an assessment on state government and general fund. To solve the second year funding, the legislation directed a labor and management workgroup to find a solution in time to report to the 2012 legislative session. The workgroup began in August and includes representatives of AFT-Oregon and OSEA.



State Treasurer Ted Wheeler speaks to AFT in Oregon members on PLAN Legislative Education Day.



Local 2278 (WOUFT) members meet with Senator Jackie Winters during 2011 PLAN LED.

Health Care

Health Insurance Exchange (SB 99)

PLAN: Neutral

Status: Signed by Governor

A central feature of the Federal Affordable Care Act requires states to establish health insurance exchanges. These are intended to work like central marketplace for health insurance, allowing competition among insurers for customers, and providing consumers with greater information about their choices. Health care advocates were disappointed that the Oregon exchange allows the insurance industry seats on the exchange board, and that the law is unclear on whether the

exchange may negotiate over the price of health insurance policies it offers.



OSEA (Local 6732) members Doris Buchholz (Left) and Julie Ramsey at Oregon AFL-CIO Jobs rally in March.

Sleep Technologists Licensure (SB 723)

AFT-Oregon: Support; OSEA: Neutral

Status: Signed by Governor

This licensure, sought by health care members, covers Polysomnographic Technologists (PSGT or Sleep Techs) by expanding the board of Respiratory Therapy and outlining PSGT's scope of practice.

Health Care Worker Violence Reporting (HB 3229)

AFT-Oregon: Support; OSEA: Neutral

Status: Died in Committee

Workplace violence reporting would have been improved with this law, which would have upgraded a 2007 law requiring hospitals, ambulatory surgical centers, and hospitals with home health services to protect health care workers from acts of violence. Health care employers' requirement to keep records of assaults committed against employees would have included ongoing data collection and reporting; reporting any physical contact that results in injury; and requiring home health care agencies to report.

Health Care "Transformation" (HB 3650)

PLAN: Neutral

Status: Signed by the Governor

The bill establishes new "coordinated care organizations" that will emphasize preventive steps and consolidate treatment for physical, mental and addictive illnesses under one roof. Under the new system,

the state will offer a limited amount of money, and providers will be expected to care for patients within that limit. A big part of the expected cost savings will come from home health care workers who will check in with clients to make sure they are managing chronic illnesses. That is meant to prevent expensive hospitalizations and cut down on emergency room use.

Additional Priorities

Community College Campus Public Safety (HB 3240)

AFT-Oregon: Support; OSEA: Neutral

Status: Died in Committee

This bill removes the prohibition for community college boards to commission police officers.

Technical Amendments to Education Bills (SB 994)

AFT-Oregon: Neutral; OSEA: Oppose

Status: Signed by Governor

Last minute contests over education bills in a 30-30 House led to amendments to the charter schools, virtual voucher and other education-related legislation.

2011 Legislative Scorecard

Each Legislative session, AFT in Oregon advocates for bills that have a positive impact on members, and against harmful bills.

Issues important to members' working lives are discussed and developed by AFT members at the annual AFT-Oregon convention and the OSEA Conference. The Political and Legislative Action Network (PLAN), made up of members from AFT-Oregon, OSEA and Local 5017, Oregon Federation of Nurses and Health Professionals develops legislative priorities based on these issues and publishes the biennial Legislative Priorities. In 2011, AFT-Oregon focused on the following:



State Representative and Local 2277 (PCCFFAP) member Michael Dembrow speaks at a bill signing ceremony.

Quality Education for Oregon Students

As AFT members, we live and work in all educational settings - in the private and public sectors, in classified and faculty positions, from Pre-K to higher education. At the state legislature and in every election, our members advocate for stable and sufficient funding for educational programs that serve Oregon students of all ages. This was particularly difficult given the continued struggling economy and state budgetary issues.

Affordable and Quality Health Care

AFT members in Oregon also include hundreds of nurses and other health care professionals.

Oregon is in the midst of a health care crisis with employees being asked to shoulder more of the cost for health care. Members believe that access to affordable and quality health care is a top priority. That is why PLAN supports legislation to help control health care costs and universal health care options for all Oregonians.

Economic Fairness and Social Justice

AFT-Oregon members believe in the freedom for employees to form a union free from intimidation or coercion. We further believe in promoting and protecting workplace settings that are safe, discrimination-free, and respectful.

Protecting a Secure Retirement

The ability to retire with dignity is a main concern for members. We support efforts to maintain the right of Oregon workers to a secure retirement.

The 2011 Legislative Scorecard reflects the voting record of all 90 legislators on the issues important to AFT members in Oregon. The scores are listed in three parts based on joint recommendations, and bills supported by each organization. A brief description of the bill is included in the scorecard. For more information, refer to the index of legislative bills in the back of this *2011 PLAN Legislative Action* report. Although the scorecard gives the voting record on certain bills which received a floor vote, it is not entirely reflective of support by legislators for PLAN's Legislative Priorities. Additional variables include measures such as bill sponsorship, readiness and availability to meet with AFT members or legislative staff, and active advocacy on behalf of an issue. These measures are not reflected in the scorecard but are taken into account when assessing performance.

2011 Senate Legislative Scorecard

SENATE Name	PLAN										AFT-Oregon						OSEA					
	EDUCATION ISSUES			BARGAINING AND RETIREMENT		GOOD GOVERNMENT			EDUCATION ISSUES				HEALTH CARE		EDUCATION ISSUES							
	Eliminates Superintendent	K-12 Mandate Relief	Virtual Vouchers	Career Technical Education	Charter Law	Open Enrollment	PERS 6% Mandate	New Tax Credit	Tax Credit Reporting	Tax Credit Repeal	Tax Code Reconnect	OUS Flexibility	40/40/20 Goal	Tuition Equity	Education Investment Board	Cool Schools	OUS Task Force	Student Transfer Rights	Sleep Techs Licensure	All Day Kindergarten	Education Service Districts	Conflicts in Education Bills
	SB552	SB800	HB2301	HB3362	HB3645	HB3681	SB897	SB817	HB2825	HB3672	SB301	SB242	SB253	SB742	SB909	HB2980	HB3418	HB3521	SB723	SB248	SB250	SB894
Jason Atkinson (R-2)	●	○	○	●	○	○	○	A	●	A	○	●	●	○	○	●	A	●	○	○	○	○
Alan C. Bates (D-3)	●	○	○	●	○	○	○	○	A	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	○	○	○	○
Lee Beyer (D-6)	○	○	○	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Suzanne Bonamici (D-17)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Brian Boquist (R-12)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Ginny Burdick (D-18)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Peter Courtney (D-11)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Richard Devlin (D-19)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Jackie Dingfelder (D-23)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Chris Edwards (D-7)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Ted Ferrioli (R-30)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Larry George (R-13)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Fred Girod (R-9)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Mark Hass (D-14)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Betsy Johnson (D-16)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Jeff Kruse (R-1)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Laurie Monnes Anderson (D-25)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Rod Monroe (D-24)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Frank Morse (R-8)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
David Nelson (R-29)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Alan Olsen (R-20)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Floyd Prozanski (D-4)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Diane Rosenbaum (D-21)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Chip Shields (D-22)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Bruce Stair (R-15)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Chris Telfer (R-27)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Chuck Thomsen (R-26)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Joanne Verger (D-5)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Doug Whitsett (R-28)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Jackie Winters (R-10)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

Key
 ● Right Vote:
 ○ Wrong Vote:
 A Absent:

2011 House Legislative Scorecard

HOUSE	PLAN												AFT-Oregon								OSEA			
	EDUCATION ISSUES				GOOD GOVERNMENT				EDUCATION ISSUES				HEALTH CARE				EDUCATION ISSUES							
Name	Eliminates Superintendent	K-12 Mandate Relief	Charter School Law	Charter School	Virtual Vouchers	Career Technical Education	Charter Law	Open Enrollment	New Tax Credit	Tax Credit Reporting	Tax Credit Repeal	Tax Code Reconnect	OUS Flexibility	40/40/20 Goal	Tuition Equity	Education Investment Board	Cool Schools	OUS Task Force	Student Transfer Rights	Sleep Techs Licensure	All Day Kindergarten	Education Service Districts	Conflicts in Education Bills	
Jules Bailey (D-42)	○	A	●	●	●	●	○	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○	○
Jeff Barker (D-28)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	●	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Phil Barmhart (D-11)	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○	○
Cliff Bentz (R-60)	●	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Vicki Berger (R-20)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	A	A	A	A
Terry Beyer (D-12)	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Deborah Boone (D-32)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Katie Eyre Brewer (R-29)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Peter Buckley (D-5)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Kevin Cameron (R-19)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Ben Cannon (D-46)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Brian Clem (D-21)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	A	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Jason Conger (R-54)	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Jean Cowan (D-10)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Michael Dembrow (D-45)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Margaret Donerby (D-35)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Sal Esquivel (R-6)	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Lew Frederick (D-43)	●	A	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Tim Freeman (R-2)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Bill Garrard (R-56)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Chris Garrett (D-38)	○	○	○	○	○	A	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Sara Geisler (D-16)	○	○	○	○	○	A	A	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Vic Gilliam (R-18)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Mitch Greenlick (D-33)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Bruce L. Hanna (R-7)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Chris Harker (D-34)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Wally Hicks (R-3)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Paul Holvey (D-8)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

Key
 Right Vote: ●
 Wrong Vote: ○
 Absent: A

2011 House Legislative Scorecard continued

HOUSE	PLAN										AFT-Oregon							OSEA						
	Eliminates Superintendent	K-12 Mandate Relier	Charter School	Law	Virtual Vouchers	Career Technical Education	Charter Law	Open Enrollment	New Tax Credit	Tax Credit Reporting	Tax Credit Repeal	Tax Code Reconnect	GOOD GOVERNMENT	OUS Flexibility	40/40/20 Goal	Tuition Equity	Education Board	Cool Schools	OUS Task Force	Student Transfer Rights	HEALTH CARE	EDUCATION ISSUES	EDUCATION ISSUES	
Name	SB552	SB800	HB2287	HB2301	HB362	HB364	HB368	SB817	HB2825	HB367	SB301		SB242	SB253	SB742	SB909	HB2960	HB3418	HB3521	SB723	All Day Kindergarten	Education Service Districts	Conflicts in Education Bills	
Val Hoyle (D-14)	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	●	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
John E. Huffman (R-56)	○	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	●	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○
Dave Hunt (D-40)	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
Bob Jenson (R-58)	○	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○
Mark Johnson (R-52)	○	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
Bill Kenemer (R-39)	●	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
Bethy Komp (D-22)	○	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
Tina Kotek (D-44)	○	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
Wayne Knieger (R-1)	●	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
Shawn Lindsay (R-30)	●	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
Greg Matthews (D-50)	●	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
Mike McLane (R-55)	●	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
Nancy Nathanson (D-13)	○	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
Mary Nolan (D-36)	●	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
Andy Olson (R-15)	○	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
Julie Parrish (R-37)	●	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
Tobias Read (D-27)	○	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
Dennis Richardson (R-4)	○	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
Arnie Roblan (D-9)	○	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
Mike Schaulfer (D-48)	○	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
Patrick Sheehan (R-51)	○	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
Greg Smith (R-57)	○	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
Jefferson Smith (D-47)	●	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
Sherrie Sprenger (R-17)	○	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
Kim Thatcher (R-25)	○	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
Jim Thompson (R-23)	●	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
Carolyn Tomei (D-41)	○	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
Matt Wand (R-49)	○	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
Jim Weidner (R-24)	○	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
Gene Whisnant (R-53)	○	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
Matt Wingard (R-26)	○	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
Brad Witt (D-31)	●	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○

Key
 Right Vote: ●
 Wrong Vote: ○
 Absent: A

AFT-Oregon Political and Legislative Affairs Staff



Robert Wagner
Director of Political
& Legislative
Affairs

Rob Wagner, AFT-Oregon Director of Political and Legislative Affairs, has held the position of chief lobbyist and director of the political program for AFT-Oregon for nine years. His previous political action and legislative work includes experience as a legislative aid and campaign manager, contract lobbyist, and political consultant.

Marcus Swift, Political Action Organizer, coordinated political mobilization, Activists for Congressional Education and political action fundraising. Swift resigned his position at AFT-Oregon in July 2011 to pursue a law degree at Roger Williams University in Rhode Island.



Marcus Swift
Political Action
Organizer



Dan Torres
Legislative
Intern

Dan Torres, a member of Local 6069 (CGE), served as an intern for the 2011 Legislative Session. Torres holds a B.A. in Speech Communication, and M.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies from Oregon State University. He previously organized a campaign for Measures 66 and 67 on the OSU campus, and worked on the 2008 Obama campaign.

OSEA, AFT Local 6732 Government Relations Staff

Ed Edwards has been OSEA Director of Government Relations since 1993. Edwards became a union activist in 1973 while employed by the State of New Hampshire. His first union staff job was as a Field Representative for AFSCME Council 68. In 1986, he moved to Oregon and joined as an OSEA member while working as a custodian for the Corvallis School District. In 1991, after completion of a Master's degree in Labor Relations at the University of Oregon, he was hired by OSEA as a Field Representative.



Ed Edwards
Director of
Government
Relations



Kate Gonsalves
Political Action
Organizer

Kate Gonsalves wore many hats during her time working with the OSEA Government Relations department. In addition to her hands-on political field work for OSEA/AFT during the 2010 General and 2011 Special elections, she assisted OSEA with lobbying and legislative work during the 2011 Session. Recently, Kate joined the staff at AFT-Oregon as a Political Action Organizer.

Tricia Smith has been OSEA's Government Relations Specialist and lobbyist for 15 years. Prior to her work at OSEA, she was a State Senator representing Salem and Keizer. She chaired the Senate Labor and General Government committee and worked on the State School Fund formula as a member of the Senate Revenue committee. Tricia lives in Salem and has two children and three grandchildren.



Tricia Smith
Government
Relations
Specialist



Tyler Whitmire
OSEA Field
Representative

Tyler Whitmire worked on behalf of OSEA, lobbying and giving statewide presentations on PERS and OEGB during 2011. He has worked numerous political campaigns to help elect over 30 candidates and collect signatures for ballot measures. He holds a B.A., Political Science, Philosophy and Economics from Eastern Oregon University, and a Master's in Public Administration from Portland State University's Hatfield School of Government. Tyler is currently an OSEA Field Representative in Eastern Oregon.

Legislation Index

By Subject

Education

A. Budget

HB 5020 - Pre-K Funding	6
HB 5552 - K-12 State School Funding	6
HB 5011 - Community College Support	6
HB 5030 - Community College TANF/JOBS Program.....	6
SB 5532 - Oregon University System	7

B. High Quality Schools

SB 242 - University System Reform/Flexibility	7
SB 248 - All Day Kindergarten.....	7
SB 250 - Education Service District Opt-Out	7
SB 253 - Establish 40/40/20 Goal for Oregon	8
SB 552 - Governor Becomes Superintendent of Public Inst.	8
SB 742 - Tuition Equity.....	8
SB 800 - K-12 Mandate Relief	8
SB 909 - Oregon Education Investment Board.....	8
HB 2287 - Weakening Oregon Charter School Law	8
HB 2301 - Vouchers for Virtual Charter Schools	9
HB 2960 - Energy Efficient School Buildings	9
HB 3362 - Career Technical Education	9
HB 3418 - Task Force on Higher Education Success	9
HB 3521 - Student Transfer Rights	9
HB 3645 - Weakens Oregon Charter School Law	9
HB 3651 & 2963 - Textbook Affordability	10
HB 3681 - Open Enrollment.....	10

Revenue and Taxation

A. Federal Tax Related

SB 301 - Reconnect to Federal Tax Code	10
--	----

B. State Tax Expenditures (Credits)

SB 817 - New Markets Tax Giveaway	10
HB 2825 - Tax Expenditure Reporting.....	10
HB 3672 - Tax Credit/Loophole Elimination	11

Union Rights and Retirement Security

SB 35 - Unemployment Insurance for Classified and Adjunct Faculty	11
SB 897 - Forced Employee PERS Pick-Up.....	11
HB 2456 - PERS Out-of-State Retiree Tax Benefit Elimination..	11
HB 3539 - Attack on Local Collective Bargaining	11
for School Employees	
HB 5510 - Employment Relations Board Budget.....	11

PLAN 2011 Legislative Action

Health Care

SB 99 - Health Insurance Exchange 12
SB 723 - Sleep Technologists Licensure 12
HB 3229 - Health Care Worker Violence Reporting 12
HB 3650 - Health Care Transformation 12

Additional Priorities

HB 3240 - Community College Campus Public Safety 12
SB 994 - Technical Amendments to Education Bills..... 12