



# NEWS AND VIEWS



## METRO SOUTHEAST UNISERV COUNCIL

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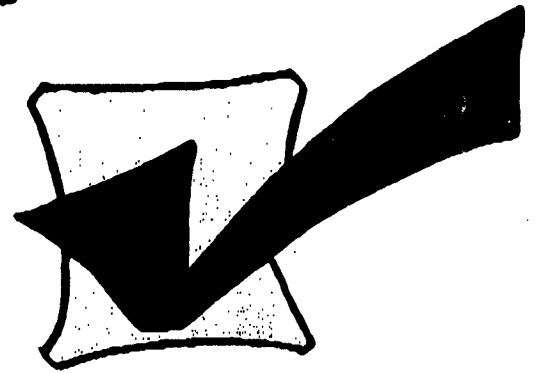
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# YES ON BALLOT MEASURE 30

## SUPPORT THE LEGISLATURE'S

## BIPARTISAN,

## BALANCED BUDGET PLAN



- ✓ **Prevent scheduled cuts** to public education, health care, senior services, and public safety by voting **YES** on Ballot Measure 30 on February 3, 2004.
- ✓ **Support this balanced approach** to establish certainty and stability for vital services Oregonians need and value.
- ✓ **Aid Oregon's economic recovery.** Our high-quality public education system is a leading inducement for corporate relocation and expansion in Oregon. In order to jump-start our ailing economy, we must keep our schools strong. Without Measure 30, schools face \$414 million or more in cuts.

**VOTE YES ON BALLOT MEASURE 30  
ON FEBRUARY 3, 2004**

# YES ON BALLOT MEASURE 30

## What the Measure Does

- ✓ Measure 30 asks voters to affirm the Legislature's balanced budget revenue package, passed in August 2003. A **yes vote** upholds this bipartisan budget solution and will prevent further cuts to vital programs in the current biennium.
- ✓ A **yes vote** on Measure 30 enables the state to meet Oregonians' needs for health care, senior services, public safety, and education at all levels through June 2005.
- ✓ The balanced budget plan creates certainty and stability. It is superior to its opponents' failed borrow-and-spend tactics, which would only mortgage Oregon's future.

## WHAT'S AT STAKE

- ✓ After years of cutting programs and staff, Oregon's students cannot afford more reductions. Nor can our economy, which is slowly crawling out of two years of recession. Oregon's full economic recovery depends on a stable education system and good schools. Without this plan, Oregon's public education system will face another \$414 million+ in cuts, and this is on top of the \$500 million cut in 2002.
- ✓ Impacts to schools forced to cut yet again will be felt statewide. A shortened school year, loss of valued programs, staff reductions, and another jump in class sizes will be the inevitable result.
- ✓ Community colleges, which suffered devastating budget reductions in the past two legislative sessions, will also be cut again by \$10 million – at a time when Oregonians' demand for community college access is at an all-time high. Program cuts and another round of tuition increases will be the only means campuses have to cope with more funding losses, resulting in making the dream of a higher education less and less of a reality for many students.

## The Bottom Line

- ✓ The balanced budget plan passed by the Legislature is fair, because it requires companies to finally pay their fair share. The package eliminates unnecessary corporate tax breaks and raises the minimum corporate tax, which is \$10 a year – an amount set back in the Great Depression of the 1930s.
- ✓ The plan is also progressive. Those who earn less will pay less, with the poorest citizens paying nothing. In fact, the average Oregonian will pay only \$24 to \$36 more *per year* in income taxes.

**TO FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN HELP PASS THIS BALLOT MEASURE, PLEASE CONTACT  
THE METRO SOUTHEAST UNISERV OFFICE AT 503-659-2724.**