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Abbreviations

The following are noted at the end of some of the policy statements to reflect when the resolution or report adopting that policy was enacted by the delegates of the Oregon State Grange.

Ag: Agriculture

Ed: Education

EE: Environment and Ecology

Energy Rpt: Energy Committee Report

FA: Federal Affairs

FiA: Financial Affairs

FIACR: Financial Affairs Session Committee Report

GPA Grange Programs and Activities

HW: Health and Welfare

In: Insurance

Le: Legislative

MA: Master's Annual Address

NR: Natural Resources

Tr: Transportation

TSCR: Transportation Session Committee Resolution

Ut: Utilities

The numbers following these abbreviations refer to specific resolutions. For example, EE01.97 was resolution 01 assigned to the Environment and Ecology committee in 1997. 73.75 was resolution number 73 passed in 1975.

Oregon State Grange

Agriculture Policy

Agriculture is the oldest recorded commercial enterprise known to man. It is the Number One economic enterprise in Oregon. It supports, directly or indirectly, more employment than any other industry in the State. Forestry provides a close second to commercial agriculture. Our third (more glamorous enterprise) is recreation and it is dependent on both Agriculture and Forestry. Agricultural crops, livestock, and wood products are our only renewable resources. They all require inputs from our four fixed resources; air, water, soil, and sunlight.

Therefore, it is the policy of the Oregon State Grange that Agriculture and Forestry will be given equal and/or priority consideration when environmental or economic plans are formulated for the use of air, water, soil, and sunlight.

Support these Broad Agricultural and Forestry Activities

- A. Flexibility in farm programs.
- B. Allowing farmers to reestablish their proven yields.
- C. Commodity loan rates set at or near cost of production.
- D. Soil and Water conservation programs that are cost shared by the Federal and State Governments, including the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). If a program is mandated by Federal or State Government, it will be cost-shared by the mandating government.
- E. The Oregon Departments of Agriculture and Fish and Wildlife be given authority to control the importation or transportation of feed products that have a potential of containing noxious weeds into agricultural and recreational areas that are presently free of these weeds.
- F. The Foreign Agricultural Investment Act which could help the US trade deficit by cutting lenders subsidies and help US producers compete more fairly in world markets.
- G. Cooperation with other organizations to present a solid front in support of the farm, forestry, and livestock production - especially family.
- H. The multiple use of public lands for grazing, timber, and recreation.
- I. The US Department of Agriculture's Truth-in-Labeling Act.
- J. The right of each nation to enact laws to protect the viability of its land and local agriculture.

Oppose these Broad Agricultural and Forestry Programs

- A. The reduction in value of farm or forestry lands through public land use policies without there being 'Just Compensation' as a 'Taking.'
- B. A ban on the use of Sodium Nitrite as a preservative of ham, hotdogs, lunch meats, and similar products. Require these products to be marked as containing nitrates. All sodium nitrite-free meat products should be clearly labeled to inform the consumer of the potential for botulism poisoning.
- C. Any change that would remove the control of forestry, grass, or any vegetation from US or Oregon State Departments of Agriculture.

Family Farms

The Oregon State Grange strongly SUPPORTS the family farm concept. A family farm being an business enterprise that provides food, fiber, forestry, and related products and services; owned, operated, managed and financed by family members who supply most of the labor. It is of sufficient size to provide a living comparable to other segments of our society.

Therefore, the Oregon State Grange family farm policy will be as stated in the specific areas: Water, soil, air, grain, horticulture, livestock, chemicals, and forestry.

I. Water

- A. Support legislation that will require any governmental or private filing for an In-stream Water Right to install a minimum of three measuring devices and provide reading and maintenance services for the devices and make the records available to the public. The devices to be installed at no cost to riparian landowners. The devices will be upstream from the last diversion, midway between the first device and the mouth and at the mouth of the stream.
- B. Support legislation that provides flow rights by priority dates of applications. The oldest rights having priority and places in-stream water right applications on hold when stream flows are being exceeded.
- C. Support legislation that would require state or federal agencies to cost share equally in all irrigation diversion measuring devices and screens that are mandated and\or have unknown impacts on the aquatic resource to be protected.
- D. Oppose the reduction, elimination, or other manipulation of present water rights or common-law riparian landowner rights for nebulous environmental reasons.
- E. Support the right of private property owners to protect their land from further flood damage if they are unable to obtain the proper permits in seven days. **EE01.97**

II. Soil

- A. That "Wet Lands" as defined by the legislature will consider what is natural "Wet Lands" and those created through irrigation or man-made water impoundments.
- B. That agricultural and forestry lands will be taxed on the basis of soil capability and\or productivity.
- C. That all state and federal agencies will consider all commercial agricultural crops by the same definition. High intensity crops such as cranberries, blueberries, nurseries, cane berries when commercially produced, should be considered as agricultural lands by the taxing departments as well as the state land use agencies.
- D. That when agricultural and forestry planning are being considered by planning agencies that intensively managed small horticultural and nursery ownerships be given equal consideration with more extensive field cropping.

III. Air

- A. Support air, smoke, and dust control measures that consider the most economical and expeditious means of reducing pollution to realistic historical levels.
- B. Support research and programs to utilize more fully the by-products from grass, grain, and forest that will reduce air smoke-pollution and provide an economic return to the grower.
- C. Support an October to May period for agriculture brush burning and the present state program for agricultural field burning.

IV. Grain Storage, Handling and Transportation

- A. Support active port terminals and storage facilities for export and import of grains and forestry products along the Columbia River.
- B. Support on-farm storage facilities for grains and on-farm capabilities of determination of protein, especially in wheat for export.
- C. Support a moisture, protein grade, and debris level for all grains based on world importers requirements with prices based on these requirements and any pricing premiums received to be shared with growers.
- D. Support a multi-based barge/rail/highway farm commodities transportation system that assures the lowest possible cost of moving food and fiber to the consumer.

V. Livestock

- A. Support the present permit fee policies of the US Congress for grazing the public lands of the BLM and Forest Service. Any increases to be as a result of inflation after 1980 when analyzing economic impacts.
- B. Favor a policy when a grazing permit requires riparian fencing for stream bank protection that the requiring public agency or private environmental or ecological-oriented group provide not less than 50 percent of the costs of such installations.
- C. Cooperate in getting approval for the use of a killed Brucellosis virus vaccine that is presently on the market.
- D. Oppose the importation of meat, dairy, and poultry products that do not meet U.S. Food and Drug standards of the same domestic products.
- E. Oppose any change in current USDA inspection laws that would weaken the inspection standards for fish, fowl, pork, beef, lamb or other meat products.

VI. Chemicals

- A. Support County, State and Federal legislation being enacted to cost share with landowners for control and containment of noxious weeds. Any legislation enacted should require public agencies to control weeds on the lands they are managing.
- B. Support County, State and Federal legislation that would permit timely use of chemical controls to eradicate exotic pests.

VII. Forestry

- A. Support all silvicultural practices, including clear cutting, as viable alternatives in timber harvesting. Timber harvest activities shall be conducted so as to protect the basic soil and water resources and to insure adequate reforestation of commercial timber species.
- B. Support timely and expeditious harvesting of fire- and insect-damaged timber that maintains timber value and reduces fire hazards.

Watershed Policy

The Grange recognizes the importance of, and the protection of all watersheds. The Grange also recognizes that watersheds do not adhere to boundaries of private or public lands. Inasmuch as all lands are within the watershed, all who own or manage all or any portion of a watershed must exercise

responsible stewardship of that watershed to maintain its health to provide clean water, continue its production of food or fiber, and any other multiple use that will benefit society.

The Grange recommends, that, federal, state, and local governments work closely with each other and local landowners to the development and construction of watershed projects, dams, and reservoirs for multiple use such as flood control, storing and releasing surplus flood waters, replenishing underground water, hydroelectric power generation, irrigation, and industrial/municipal uses.

The Grange opposes the 'locking up' of watersheds or portions thereof for a single use by anyone or agency especially public lands that have historically been in multiple use including the growing and harvesting of timber, forage and other renewable resources.

The Grange does not oppose the placing of some restrictions on some activities in designated areas for the protection of a specific resource for a specific time.

The Grange supports and promotes educating all persons and agencies to the fact that the responsibility for the protection of our watersheds lies with those who use them.

Environment, Conservation, and Natural Resources Policy

The Grange recognizes that the protection of the environment and the conservation of our natural resources are vital national priorities if our nation is to remain a pleasant, healthful and profitable place to live. However, the zealous pursuit of unrealistic and unnecessary environmental and conservation goals can cause economic damage to industries that are important to our country. They can cause economic damage to industries that are important to our country; they can also obfuscate the important role that private property rights play in maintaining our liberty. The Grange does not believe that Americans must sacrifice their prosperity or surrender their constitutional rights in order to preserve our environment. All these goals can be achieved within the framework of a free and creative society.

The Grange insists that the protection for private property ownership that is derived from the United States Constitution, State Constitutions, and the common law be vigorously protected.

Adequate and full compensation should be paid in all cases of 'taking' of private property by Government or under the color of Government authority. Because the knowledge and understanding of the rights and responsibilities of private property ownership are a basic requirement for a free society, we support increased efforts to educate the public and the children in school, in particular, about the continued importance of the right to own property that our citizens enjoy under our form of government.

The Grange, at all levels, demands responsible stewardship of all who own or utilize those resources. Responsible stewardship recognizes a balance between use and preservation. It is a function of informed judgment that can take many different forms. Property owners must accept and exercise their responsibilities individually.

Alternatively, individuals may band together cooperatively to enlist skilled and professional advice on resource management. In few instances, society may decide that certain resources are best managed through public agencies that strictly follow the values of a democratic society. Regardless of the form of management of our natural resources, responsible stewardship recognizes that our society needs to make prudent and legitimate use of the natural resources in our care. Responsible stewardship is just as important as the rights that are protected by the US Constitution in maintaining liberty, our prosperity and our way of life.

Agriculture

Farm Land and Forest Land

The Oregon State Grange opposes the condemnation of agricultural acreage for the purpose of setting up recreational and environmental areas, including the use of this power by the State. We also oppose the purchase of farm lands for the creation of recreational areas, public projects, and housing developments.

We support legislation that would prevent removing water rights from agriculture to supply rural and/or industrial development with water and, if that a temporary building halt be made in any area not having a ready and adequate source of water. **73.75, 35.85, 46.88, Ag01.90, Ag05.92**

We favor establishment of definite criteria that clearly and properly defines and identifies what constitutes 'Secondary Lands', as applied to forestry and agriculture lands; also that public comments be solicited in establishing the criteria to be used in this identification. **Ag02.90**

The Oregon State Grange favors a 'Right to Farm' law. **Ag01.93, Re-Affirmed Ag03.06**

The State Grange opposes any system, or method, that would threaten our great production of food, our family type farm system, and local business enterprises. **22.77**

The Oregon State Grange shall back all legislation and push for stronger legislation to protect the farms and farmers not only in Oregon but throughout the United States. **Ag01.01**

The Grange supports a policy that protects and preserves any property in excess of two acres in an Exclusive Farm Use zone. **Ag02.97**

The Oregon State Grange opposes all attempts to repeal the Open Range Law, and advocates that all government entities post all roads with signs noting livestock are present, with signs posted at the beginning, end, and at five-mile intervals within the open range area. **Ag03.98**

The Oregon State Grange supports the Land Conservation and Development Commission's continued use of existing guidelines to maintain the State of Oregon's existing Farm and Forest Lands. **EE01.02**

The Oregon State Grange supports the return of US Forest and BLM lands to the individual 12 Western States. **FA05.08**

Irrigation

Further the Grange supports the concept that **agricultural use of water** be considered as a public beneficial use of the waters of Oregon. Also those Oregon statutes recognize water used for agricultural food production and processing be identified as beneficial uses equal to, or greater than, fish, wildlife, recreation, and other environmental water uses. **62.84, Ag04.92**

We urge the Oregon State Water Resources Department to consider the needs of the Oregon farmer when making their decisions concerning **minimum stream flow**, and fish and wildlife uses. We also urge cooperation from all agencies to provide for the needs of farmers, as well as those of fish and wildlife.

The Oregon State Grange believes that limitations on **irrigated acreage** be adjusted to better reflect today's needs. We further believe that a 160 acre limitation is not reasonable in many areas. Also self-determination should be granted to irrigation projects, when all monies have been repaid. **35.78**

We oppose current requirements, made by the Oregon State Water Resources Department, for the installation of **water flow meters** on underground irrigation systems. We feel there are other methods to figure water flow on these systems that would not cause unnecessary financial cost to water consumers. **111.88**

We oppose any State or Federal legislation that would decrease and/or **limit irrigation, agricultural processing and livestock water rights** in accordance to our present Grange policy. **Ag02.93, Ag07.08**

Oregon State Grange will actively work to reverse the actions of the Ninth Circuit Court and permanently restore the flow of life-giving and life-sustaining **water from Klamath Lake** to those farmers and farm communities served by the irrigation system; and that "active work" will include, but not be limited to, calling for and organizing the efforts of Subordinate Granges in Oregon, and State Granges elsewhere, to write letters to, and personally lobby by calling and/or visiting their national and state legislators as well as appropriate members of the Federal and State executive branches of government.

The Oregon State Grange and Grange members support the efforts to help the **Klamath irrigation** users in their fight to keep their historical water rights and their ability to make a living off their land. **Ag02.08**

Chemicals, Vegetation Control, and Pests

The State Grange strongly opposes a ban on the use of **Sodium Nitrite**. Such a ban could result in possible loss of sales, of up to 60%, of processed pork such as ham, bacon, hotdogs, and lunch meats. Without Sodium Nitrite the danger of botulism could be a threat to the consumer. Also all nitrite free meat products should be clearly labeled as such to ensure the protection of the consumer against food poisoning like botulism. **7.79**

The Oregon State Grange will cooperate with work to get approval for the use of a killed virus vaccine for **Brucellosis**. Currently the only vaccine approved for use is a live virus vaccine. A killed virus vaccine has been developed and is equally effective. **58.88**

The State Grange asks chemical companies to **test pesticides**, fungicides, and herbicides, for minimal usage, and that danger to human health be of primary importance before these chemicals are released for use in the production of our food supply. These practices might aid in the avoidance of adverse publicity surrounding chemical usage. Such adverse publicity can, and has, affected the farmers/producers who use them in good faith (i.e. Alar residue in apples). We further feel that these chemical companies should be held financially liable for any false or withheld information given on chemicals. **EE04.89**

We propose legislation protecting farmers from **claims** that disparage, defame agriculture products without verifiable scientific proof when reported by the media and groups against the farmer. **Ag03.94**

We support a change that would make the state **Agricultural Board** a policy making body, instead of the present system which casts this board as an advisory body only.

We also believe that the **Director of Agriculture** should have the power to appoint the members of the Commodity Commission, instead of the current system which has them politically appointed. The Oregon State Grange believes all of these changes would help the Department of Agriculture stay in touch with the problems of the farmer. **46.77**

We oppose any change that would remove the **control of forestry**, grass, or any vegetation, from the Department of Agriculture. **36.79**

We favor **field burning by** the grass seed growers, until such time as an established and effective alternative for purifying the fields is sanctioned by these farmers, and the Oregon Department of Agriculture. **53.77**

The Grange favors **agricultural brush burning** from October to May. This gives the farmers adequate dry burning time, and any shorter period could result in the burning of wet materials. Burning wet material causes more smoke and makes the actual brush burning process longer. **50.78**

2010 Legislative Policies of the Oregon State Grange

The Grange would support any federal or state legislation that would enlist help for landowners and farmers in their work to control and reverse the spread of **Tansy Ragwort**, or any other noxious weeds, on their property.

The Oregon State Grange urges local county weed districts to enforce the **Weed Control Law** on county, state and private property to assist in the control, of the noxious weed Wild Scotch Broom.

We also recommend giving the Oregon Fish and Game Commission authority to control feed contaminated with **noxious weeds** due to the frequency of hunters bringing these seeds into the areas with the hay for their pack animals. **28.76, 1.81, Ag02.92**

The Oregon State Grange supports the eradication of **noxious weeds** on private and public lands, and with the National Grange, will support Federal, State, and County administered programs which will provide adequate funding for the eradication of noxious weeds. **Ag03.99**

The State Grange supports fighting **Gypsy Moth** infestations. We believe any steps that are taken to eradicate this pest are justified, as long as due consideration to the safety of human and animal life is given. The Gypsy Moth's continued destruction of our natural resources means not only economic losses, but also the destruction of the natural beauty of our state and country. **54.82**

We ask that the US and State Agriculture Departments and County Weed Control Districts declare the **Russian Olive Tree** a nuisance. **Ag01.94**

The Grange supports continued scientific research into **non-human cloning**. **Ag03.97**

The Grange supports a two tier **livestock protection** law. Dogs that chase livestock outside incorporated cities shall be put to death upon the first offense. Dogs that chase livestock inside incorporated cities shall be put to death upon the second offense. All dogs that injure or kill livestock shall be put to death. **Ag04.97**

The Oregon State Grange supports the Oregon **Dog Control** laws, and does not support their repeal, amendment or weakening; and feels there should be more dog control officers on duty and a more aggressive enforcement of the dog control law now on the books. Stricter enforcement of the restitution or fines a dog owner has to pay for his delinquent dog also should be applied. Stiffer Penalties should be levied when restitution becomes delinquent or non existent. **Ag08.98**

The State Grange urges the discontinuance of the **decompression** chamber as it has been shown to be inhumane. We support the more humane method of sodium Phenobarbital as a method for destroying unwanted animals. **68.80**

The Oregon State Grange supports legislation requiring all dairy products to have a butterfat content label in a prominent and readable position. We believe further that all foods containing dairy butterfat should have a similar **labeling requirement**. **30.76**

For consumer protection, the Oregon State Grange shall support **labeling imported food** as to the **country of origin**. **FA01.00**

The Oregon State Grange shall work to pass legislation which would require that all produce sold in the United States for human consumption be labeled with the **country of origin**; and the Congress of the United States is respectfully requested to enact comprehensive legislation that requires country of origin labeling on all meat and meat products, including blended meats, to ensure that meat labeled "United States meat" is meat from animals that were born, raised, and processed in the United States; and a copy of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States and to each member of the Oregon Congressional delegation. **Ag03.01**

The Grange supports funding for "**Country of Origin Labeling**" (COOL). **Ag7.06**

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The Oregon State Grange supports legislation to require all countries exporting food products to the United States to meet the **US food safety standards** and certify safety inspections to US standards. **FA01.04**

The Oregon State Grange supports the **Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act** (DSHEA) of the year 1994 (Public Law 103-417). **Ag01.10**

The Oregon State Grange opposes regulations that would adversely affect local food co-ops, farm stands, independent ranchers, and artisan food producers in an attempt to establish **food safety standards**. **Ag03.10**

The Oregon State Grange supports requiring markets to post point of origin of produce for the benefit of the consumer; and that we encourage Oregon retail outlets to promote and use the "Grown in Oregon" labels. **Ag03.02**

We ask that all products containing **MSG** in any form be labeled 'includes MSG' after the listed ingredient which contains or causes MSG; and that all fresh fruit and vegetables that is either sprayed or waxed in with MSG as part of the ingredient be so marked either on the produce or on the sign stating the price of the product. **HW05.01**

The Oregon State Grange supports laws requiring all fertilizer manufacturers to **list all ingredients** in their products by their true name such as Lead, Zinc, Radioactive Waste and that a generic name such as "inert material" not be used; and that all fertilizer manufacturers using recycled materials be plainly listed as recycled materials. **Ag06.98**

We support the removal of many of the restrictions for game hunting and allow a hunt season of reasonable time and bag limit to reduce the numbers of the seven sub-species of **Canadian Geese** causing crop damage in the Willamette Valley. **AG02.09**

Foreign Aid and the Importation of Agricultural Products

The Oregon State Grange supports regulations, and curtailments, if these are needed, to maintain **domestic profits**, of imported meats, such as dairy livestock and poultry products. Also that prices on these products be regulated, based on the domestic cost of production, especially during depressed times. We ask further that higher price support levels be provided, when necessary, to meet the cost of production plus a profit. Finally we urge that grain exports be kept to a level where they do not jeopardize our domestic needs. **5, 24.75**

The **importation of lamb** has had an adverse effect on domestic meat. Imported lamb has been produced using products not approved by the United State Food and Drug Administration. For these reasons the Oregon State Grange opposes the importation of lamb into the United States. **27.87**

The Grange stands behind the **Foreign Agricultural Investment Act**. This Act could help to reduce the US trade deficit by cutting lenders' subsidies, thus enabling US producers to compete more fairly in international markets. **16.87**

The State Grange feels that the United States government should not be controlling tonnage for foreign agricultural shipments and should halt price controlling of **foreign grain shipments**. **99.88**

The Oregon State Grange support legislation to require that all grass seed imported into the US market or sold on the world market by member countries of **NAFTA and/or WTO** abide by all requirements of their trade agreement, particularly those requirements concerning subsidies for production. **Ag01.02**

The Oregon State Grange requests the United States Congress to withdraw the Unites States from the **World Trade Organization**. **FA05.05**

The Oregon State Grange become actively involved in the repeal of **NAFTA** and request that the National Grange rescind its endorsement of NAFTA and become active in its repeal. **FA02.99, FA12.07**

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The Oregon State Grange requests the United States Congress repeal NAFTA and oppose passage of CAFTA and FTAA. **FA06.05**

The Oregon State Grange supports an import tariff on all Canadian Lumber and Logs imported into the United States. **Ag02.03**

The Oregon State Grange supports tariffs on imported beef and meat equal to U.S. costs. **Ag07.5.03**

Domestic Agricultural Aid

The State Grange opposes subsidies made to **tobacco farmers**. We favor legislation that would prohibit the Department of Agriculture, or any other department of the US government, from subsidizing the tobacco industry. **41.84**

The Oregon State Grange supports having tobacco farmers **change to crops** that are not harmful to mankind or animals. **Ag10.98**

We support only farm programs that recognize the fact that all **commodities are inter-related**, and any change in supply, demand, or price of one affects the others. Because commodities are inter-related, careful consideration must be made of the economic impact on all commodities when a major change in any policy is made. **48.84**

We recognize the problems of the small seed producer of non-hybrid seeds, and the State Grange strongly supports any legislation, and/or program, that would help the small independent **seed producer**. **30.82**

The Oregon State Grange asks that the US government **break up monopolies** held by buyers and shippers controlling overseas grain shipments. Also that growers, grower associations, and grower cooperatives be permitted to arrange their own shipments, if they so desire, for all grain markets they open up and develop. **100.88**

Inspections and Labeling

The Oregon State Grange is opposed to any changes in the current USDA **poultry inspection laws** that would weaken the inspection standards. **3.87**

The State Grange, which represents consumers, opposes the adoption of '**user fees**' imposed on meat packers. These fees are to pay for meat and poultry inspections, and we feel this could affect inspection quality. **93.88**

The Oregon State Grange supports the rewrite of the proposed **National Organic Standards** by the USDA to include the high standards that the industry has developed and maintained through the National Organic Board which represents growers, producers, manufacturers, consumers and retailers of organic foods. **Ag05.98**

We go on record supporting the use of **biotechnology** in Agriculture. We recognize that the genetic engineering of plants has had a positive impact on increasing the availability of food and fiber, decreasing the environmental impact of agriculture and creating foods that are safer, longer lasting, more nutritious and better tasting. **Ag06.03**

The Oregon State Grange supports legislation which would place a four year moratorium on the growing of plants genetically engineered to produce pharmaceutical and industrial products on food crops in outdoor environments. **Ag01.05**

The Oregon State Grange supports practical science testing and control procedures to protect the public from BSE and not over burden the industry. **Ag09.04**

The Oregon State Grange supports the industry accepted cattle identification system. **Ag11.04**

Farms, Farming Practices, and Farm Labor

The Oregon State Grange expresses support for the formation of a coalition of farm organizations that would present a solid front in support of the farming industry, especially the family farm. **28.87**

The Oregon State Grange believes grazing allotments should be made in the interests of agriculture. **41.76**

The Grange gives full cooperation to any program that would develop ethanol, or any other commercial type fuel from surplus grain or other agricultural by-products. **37.78**

The Oregon State Grange urges everything possible be done to exempt the agricultural use of ATV's from any restrictions made on their sale or use. **107.88**

We go on record in opposition to the imposition of administrative rules against farm licensed vehicles. **10.76**

We oppose any requirements which demand the wages of students who work on farms only seasonally, usually during the harvest season, be reported. We also oppose the deduction of benefits from these wages. These students are unable to collect unemployment benefits, and so should not have these benefits deducted from their wages. **86.78**

We urge the Federal Government to repeal or modify the law prohibiting children from working in farm fields. **Ag02.94**

The Oregon State Grange request the State Legislature establish Administrative Rules relieving employers of the responsibility of documenting individual rest and/or lunch periods for each individual farm worker. **Le06.04**

The State Grange supports a change in the state of Oregon's structural code so that the definition of an 'agricultural building' would exclude a dwelling and first garage or carport. Also that buildings would automatically qualify for an 'agricultural building' definition if the Comprehensive Plan allows for farming. **7.77**

We support changes in farm regulations that would allow a second dwelling to be built on family farms. Many farmers would prefer to remain living on their farms, upon retirement from farming due to age or circumstance, while turning their farms over to their sons or daughters. **13.86**

We believe Grange members should become involved in any open discussion of Agriculture through public forum. **Ag01.95**

The Grange will lobby to maintain the Conservation Reserve Program. **Ag02.95**

The Grange will vigorously oppose any change to Oregon's 'Agricultural Lien Laws'. **Ag05.97**

The Grange promotes the saving of seed for future on the farm use ("Brown Bag" seed). **Ag01.06**

The Grange supports the "Farm to School" Program. **Ag01.07**

The Oregon State Grange supports Oregon State Legislation allocating funds to the Oregon Farm to School and School Garden Network. **Ag01.08**

We urge the state legislature to allocate funds to schools for the purchase of Oregon food products and provide school-garden and agricultural education grants to help fund the **Farm to School Program** and the **School Garden Network**. **Ag03.09**

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The Grange supports the Oregon State University's right to appoint the **state climatologist**. **Ag02.07**

We encourage that refuge management in the Willamette Valley work with neighboring farmers to employ farming practices that raise crops that provide a more adequate supply of winter feed for the wintering **Canadian Geese and water fowl**. **Ag04.09**

The Oregon State Grange supports legislation that allows the use of surface and grey water for **permaculture**. **Ag02.10**

The Oregon State Grange supports legislation that would **exempt poultry producers in Oregon from certain licensing requirements**, according to the federal Poultry Products Inspection Act (PPIA), when they:

- Process no more than 1,000 birds of their own raising
- Slaughter and process under sanitary standards, practices, and procedures according to state food safety regulations established for the exemption
- Keep slaughter and sales records
- Do not sell poultry products interstate. **Ag04.10**

Education

School Expenses and Funding Problems

The State Grange is in favor of the following objectives to help solve the **school financial** problems:

1. Restoration of control to local school boards
2. Removal of the power of the State Board of Education to enforce extravagant standards on local districts in order to obtain state monies
3. Discourage adoption of expensive experimental programs of doubtful value
4. Re-institute a course of study based chiefly on fundamentals and vocational subjects
5. Evaluate teachers on classroom effectiveness
6. Minimize the number of highly paid administrators
7. Provide a uniform architectural service available to all districts. **42.87**

The State Grange strongly supports the use of a **graduated income tax** to finance schools. We also support a limitation on the amount of taxes that can be levied on real property. The Grange would in addition support legislative efforts to make basic school funds a property tax offset. We will continue to look at alternative methods of school funding. **72.78, 2.89, Le11.90**

The Oregon State Grange will work toward the goal of getting 50% of the net **State Lottery proceeds** to go toward funding of schools thus relieving property taxes. These proceeds to be directed for the operations of high schools, junior highs, and elementary schools in Oregon, instead of to economic development and higher education. In this way, all taxpayers would benefit from the lottery instead of only a few. **60.87, 26, 47.88**

We believe that the net proceeds brought into Oregon by **Lotto America** should be distributed to the Oregon primary and secondary educational districts, thus lowering property taxes and assuring the schools operating costs. We will also work toward school district allotments being distributed according to attendance, in addition to the present A.D.T. money, and that said districts lower their millage rates accordingly. **49.88**

We support legislation that would require all school and **levy elections** within a district, be consolidated throughout the state as much as possible to cut the cost of these elections. **88.78**

The Oregon State Grange opposes schools receiving money for **students enrolled** that do not attend classes and the many who don't even have a schedule of subjects. These students should be removed from the school rolls as soon as the administrators are aware of them, thus saving the taxpayers thousands of dollars. **75.86**

We oppose any interest group being allowed to pass Sales Tax or any other tax **using school children** as a political hostage as a means to secure votes for passage. **Le08.93**

We urge the State Legislature to provide funds for the **Head Start Program** and protect the continuation. **Ed01.95**

Every effort will be made to secure stable funding for the **Student Leadership Center** so it will not be in jeopardy each year. **Ed03.95**

The Oregon State Grange and the National Grange shall work toward the establishment of a law to require all 50 states to have a uniform **background check** of all school employees and volunteers.

Ed01.00

During hard economic times, we support state funds to be used to eliminate the **co-pay for school breakfasts for low-wage families** to help thousands more Oregon children to be able to have a breakfast so that they can learn better in the classroom.

Le.13.09

Administration, Teachers, Employees

The State Grange opposes **strikes by public school teachers**. The responsibility of financing our local schools is in the hands of the voters, and teacher strikes effectively negate the power of the voters.

We also favor legislation to **restrict the picketing** at any site by teachers to not more than three pickets on duty at any one time and place. We believe that any teacher that is arrested at the scene of a strike against any school district should be suspended from teaching until his/her case has been adjudicated. If convicted of any criminal offense the teacher should be subject to dismissal and his/her teacher certificate subject to revocation.

52.78, 15.87

Teacher tenure has in the past provided a shelter for teacher incompetence therefore discouraging teacher improvement and limiting job competition in the field of teaching. The Oregon State Grange encourages some type of creative reform that will protect teacher's civil liberties, while at the same time discourage the inefficiencies directly resulting from the teacher tenure system.

54.78

School administrative teams have their **wages frozen** in proportion to all other staff members when school days are reduced.

Ed02.03

Subjects Taught in Schools

The Oregon State Grange believes that voluntary **reference to God**, and voluntary non-sectarian prayer, should be permitted in schools.

25.79

The Oregon State Grange supports posting copies of the **Ten Commandments** in our public schools throughout the State of Oregon.

Ed02.01

We support any legislation that would provide state support for **vocational education**, and we oppose federal fund cuts to these programs.

The Oregon State Grange strongly supports **Vocational Agricultural programs**, such as the FFA. In the state educational system there is a need to encourage education and experience in order to keep agriculture strong and moving. Any discontinuance of these programs, from the state or local school districts, should be met with strong opposition. We oppose any change in the structure of agricultural science and technology programs in Oregon high schools.

42.78, 79.81, Ed05.92

The Oregon State Grange supports **teaching** the accomplishments and contributions of the Grange when presenting the history of our country. Many of our laws and programs which still affect our daily lives today were instituted by the Grange.

We believe **hunter safety** should be taught in the school system.

50, 69.85

The State Grange believes that all immigrants should be required to attend special classes in **English**, to learn the skills needed to read, write and speak this language. All regular classes in school could then be conducted in English.

We also believe that **no foreign language classes** should be taught in our school systems until the high school or college level.

28.81, 79.82

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We endorse the textbooks in our public schools which present agricultural practices realistically and honestly. We further endorse the book entitled '**Get Oregonized**' as such a textbook. **3.86**

The Oregon State Grange endorses the teaching of **computer technology** in elementary schools. Also we feel that the use of computers in schools should not compromise or replace the traditional courses of math, spelling, penmanship or creative writing. **8.88**

We urge all High Schools to provide **Driver Education** as part of their educational program and will work to get Legislative funding for schools that provide Driver Ed courses. **TSCR.95**

Schools

The Oregon State Grange supports removing sugar filled snacks and pop in vending machines in Oregon Public Schools with higher nutritional foods and drinks. **Ed01.05**

The Oregon State Grange supports amendments to the **school speed zone** law to allow driver to travel faster than 20 MPH if: a) the zone is not described in ORS 801.462; b) Has a flashing light to control traffic; c) driving between 5pm and 7am; d) when children are not present or school is not in session. **Le01.05**

We support the adoption of a **closed campus** structure by all school districts. This would cut the exposure of students to drug peddlers etc. during school hours. Students would remain on campus unless written permission or other arrangements were made by their parents or guardians. **76.86**

The Oregon State Grange supports the suspension of students from schools for incidents involving **threats of violence** and weapons in or on the school grounds or buildings and the mandatory suspension be time be changed from 72 hours to 5 (five) days. **Ed.01.98**

The State Grange supports state legislation that would require mandatory **student busing** for rural students. **Ed06.89**

The Oregon State Grange supports the repeal of that portion of the **Toxic Substance Control Act** (TSCA) that deals with the mandatory surveillance and periodic inspection of public school district buildings for asbestos containing materials (ACM). **39.88**

We seek adequate funding of our **Land Grant Colleges**. Also we ask the Governor of Oregon, and the leadership at Oregon State University, Oregon's only Land Grant College, to continue positive emphasis on an agricultural major curriculum.

The Grange further supports the proposed **Nursery Crop Research Center** at OSU, providing that the nursery industry assist in the funding. **16.81, Ed03.90, Ag03.92**

The Oregon State Grange opposes the deletion of the medical and diesel programs at the **Oregon Technical Institute** (OIT). If cuts must be made in educational programs, there are many less beneficial places where this could be done, while maintaining these programs which are important and have attracted students from all over the United States. **Ed04.91**

The Oregon State Grange seeks to require schools to notify parents or guardian of the **absence** of the child from school by noon. **Ed01.02**

The Grange be among the leaders to restore Christ back into Christmas. **Ed2.06**

The Oregon State Grange supports preserving the state budget to keep the Oregon School for the Deaf open. **Le.12.09**

The Oregon State Grange supports **parental school choice** in education. **Ed01.10**

Cooperative Extension Service, 4-H

The members of the Oregon State Grange support the continued funding of an efficient effective **Cooperative Extension Service** at local and state levels.

We also support **'on farm' testing** by the Cooperative Extension Service as a method of evaluating and adapting research information to local areas.

The **4-H program**, funded through the Extension Service, should be maintained even if the Extension Service is eliminated or its funds are severely cut. The 4-H program could be funded in a different manner if necessary. **Ag02.91, Ag01.92**

Energy and Utilities

Energy Sources and Energy Conservation

The Oregon State Grange opposes efforts to dissipate the natural gas and oil resources from our Alaskan fields to foreign countries without regard to **domestic requirements**. We also urge Congress to open up likely areas in Alaska for the exploration of oil, and other natural resources, that we so badly need.

The Oregon State Grange asks that a **Petroleum Board** of qualified persons, not affiliated with the petroleum industry, be appointed by the President, subject to the confirmation of the Senate of the US, to establish policies and rules for the efficient supply, distribution and use of petroleum.

We also urge the United State government to develop an **energy policy** that will replace, whenever feasible, petroleum products with renewable or biomass fuels. **FA03, FA05.92**

We further support the **use of natural gas** in new homes and businesses where this is Feasible. Converting present systems to natural gas when any changes become necessary in the current system will assist in the conservation of power. **23.77, 24.81, Energy Rpt.92**

Nuclear energy, as a power source, has not been fully tapped. Even though we recognize the problems surrounding the safe disposal of radioactive wastes, the State Grange believes nuclear energy should not be completely ruled out as a possible energy source. We have no doubt future technological advances will develop methods to take care of waste problems, as well as minimizing possible safety hazards. **MA.90**

The Oregon State Grange supports building and using **Nuclear Power** throughout the State of Oregon. **Ut04.01**

The Oregon State Grange supports the **waste to energy** concept (as seen in the Ogden-Martin Plant in Brooks, Oregon) as a recommended method of disposing of garbage. This method not only safely disposes of waste through incineration, but produces saleable power during the same operation. We will promote and lobby for solid waste-to-energy facilities such as this.

The Oregon State Grange supports the requiring of the use of **Bio-Diesel** in state owned diesel powered vehicles and incentives to produce and supply Bio-Diesel. **Ag02.04**

We resolve to work with all PUDs, REAs, and municipalities to establish and build more **waste to energy** plants. **Ut01.93**

We ask each Pomona Grange to encourage their County Commissioners and city governments to study the Feasibility of building a waste to energy facility in their areas, installed within a reasonable distance of the existing **PUDs, REAs, Co-ops** and municipalities, and that the power produced to be made available to these PUDs, REAs, Co-ops and municipalities. **Ut01.90, Ut01a.91**

We must renew our search for new types of electrical power sources as we increase our energy production levels. At the same time, we must strive to eliminate pollution to the atmosphere and water. The development of wind, solar, geothermal, and other renewable power sources, should be strongly encouraged. We urge this nation to take a leading role in the development of renewable sources of energy now, while the world is not yet at the mercy of countries controlling the last oil supplies. All alternative sources of energy should be developed and put into production at the earliest possible time. **52.88, Ut04.90, Energy Rpt.90**

The Oregon State Grange believes that lighted advertising signs, and large mechanical revolving advertising mechanisms that operate continuously after stores, offices, and service stations are closed,

are a **waste of electrical power**. We recommend turning these off during non-business hours to conserve energy. **5.81**

The State Grange urges the Public Utility Commissioner to refuse all Power and Light Company requests to grant **loans**, the interest on these proposed loans to be paid by the ratepayers, **for the insulation of** electrical homes. **56.78**

The State Grange believes that we must continue to work toward **energy conservation**, not only in the use of electrical power, but also in our use of water. This would ensure the costs of both are kept to a minimum. **Energy Rpt.90**

The Oregon State Grange opposes any **deregulation** proposal that does not contain a guarantee that no rural area shall have rates which are more than 1 ½ times greater than the best rate charged in the urban areas of Oregon. **Ut02.98**

The Oregon State Grange opposes any proposal by PGE/Enron, or any other large electrical supplier, to change its operation to a **delivery system only** unless equitable rates through new competition are guaranteed for all of that company's existing customers, both residential and commercial users. **Ut03.98**

We ask the State of Oregon to rescind the passage of **deregulation** of Energy Industry in Oregon. **Ut03.01**

The Grange opposes **deregulation** of any processor or industry that will affect the rural community unless proof of some economic gain can be realized by the consumer. **Le02.97**

The Oregon State Grange recommends that every effort be made to restore affected farmland to its former condition and fertility by the NW Natural Gas or the **pipeline construction** company. **Ut01.02**

The Oregon State Grange supports legislation that would require that all imported **electrically energized items** comply with "UL" (Underwriters Laboratories) codes before being sold in the United States. **FA01.10**

Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and Public Utility Districts (PUD)

The Oregon State Grange strongly opposes any **proposed sale of the Bonneville Power Administration**. The Grange has historically disagreed with the principle of private ownership of utilities, and we not only oppose a sale of the BPA, but also any other sale of federally owned and administered power installations in the United States. We will continue our support of the BPA, and we further recognize and support their goal to maintain low cost power for the future. **4.86, 84.87**

The State Grange supports requirements that would have the BPA **distribute the power** rates which are available for irrigation and agricultural uses. Also that for the sake of convenience, this information be given to the State Grange in the areas served by the BPA, as well as to the registered farm organizations in their service area. **68.84**

The State Grange supports a sales agreement between **B.C. Hydro** and the Bonneville Power Administration. **Ut02.90**

The Grange will work to ensure no changes are made in the 1937 Congressional BPA **repayment agreement**. Changes have been suggested in the repayment agreement to help balance the federal deficit. We further oppose any changes to a floating interest rate, with straight line amortization, on BPA dam loans made by the Federal Government. **Ut01.89, Ut02.89**

The State Grange endorses the taxation of the beneficial use, by non-federal legal entities, of the federal owned **electric transmission lines** established throughout Oregon. These lines are and have been constructed by and/or for the BPA. **79.87**

The Oregon State Grange strongly supports all existing **Public Utility Districts**, and favors the establishment of new PUD's. We also oppose the passage of any legislation that would require newly

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formed PUDs to purchase high priced co-generated power when other power is available at lower cost. We further join the Northwest Energy Alliance in its efforts to protect the public preference clause that provides many northwest consumers with low cost energy. **38.77, 82.78, 31.87, 88.88**

The Oregon State Grange work to establish **PUD districts** in the low-population counties, so as to maintain local control over rates and services. **Ut02.00**

The Oregon State Grange endorses the following changes to ORS 261 **"Formation of Public Utility District"**:

1. Change certain sections of ORS 261 to allow formation of the PUD by one vote of the people, rather than the multiple-vote requirement;
2. Delete the engineering study and required vote required by ORS 261;
3. Delete sections that restrict and make more difficult the citizens' constitutional rights to form a PUD.

The Oregon State Grange shall promote changes to the PUD statute, that will allow citizens to form the PUD by the **initiative process** using a single vote method; and that the Granges work with citizen organizations that are working to bring about the needed changes in the ORS 261. **Ut02.02**

The Oregon State Grange promotes **water power development** and the establishment of People's Water Utility Districts in the State of Oregon; and we also promote the formation of the People's Utility District to manage and operate the Bull Run water supply system to supply water to Portland and the surrounding communities. **Ut03.02**

The Oregon State Grange shall work to promote a peoples utility district (PUD) or other public body to be the provider of electrical energy to the current customers of **Portland General Electric**. **Ut04.02, Ut02.03**

We support the **Northwest Power Works** effort to protect ratepayers. **Ut01.03**

Article XI-D

The Grange supports the implementation of Article XI-D of the Oregon constitution. This implementation could be accomplished through legislation that would authorize the creation of a properly qualified elected three member Oregon Power Development Commission. This commission would carry out the provision of Article XI-D and be empowered with authority to do their work and to encourage development and availability of low cost power. **87.86**

Telephones and Television

The State Grange opposes inequitable **telephone rates** in the State of Oregon, and asks that the Utility Commissioner enact provisions to establish equitable rates throughout our state. We also ask Congress to ensure that all long distance rates be regulated so as to ensure all carriers pay their fair share for the use of local telephone networks. **67.83**

We favor petitioning the Public Utility Commission of Oregon to provide **phone service** for Subordinate Granges at a rate similar to the residential measured service rate now offered by companies providing telephone service in the state of Oregon. **3.88**

We support having Granges and other fraternal nonprofit organizations (i.e.; I.O.O.F., Eastern Star, etc.) pay the **residential telephone rate** for their particular areas. **Ut03.00**

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The State Grange supports a requirement for businesses and government agencies to inform employees if someone is **listening** in on their calls. **35.88**

The Granges in Oregon support limiting the **scrambling** of informative T.V. stations. **74.88**

We will work with the PUC and any other agency that has authority in telephone area code designations to ensure that communities that have ties to larger towns and cities are not separated by **area codes** **FA04.95**

The State Grange opposes any long distance telephone company from **switching a customer** to another service without first getting the customer's written authorization. **Ut01.00**

The Oregon State Grange shall ask the Public Utility Commission to require all telephone companies within the state to make available '**Caller ID**' access to all subscribers. **Ut01.01**

We ask that people be able to request that they not receive recorded political telephone calls in a manner similar to the limiting of **solicitation calls**. **Ut02.01**

The Oregon State Grange seeks to abolish the use of **electronic telephone marketing**. **Ut05.01**

The Oregon State Grange supports legislation to mandate **programming of ICE (In Case of Emergency) in all cell phones** by manufacturers. **Ut02.07**

Wells

The Oregon State Grange believes that when a well is abandoned it should be permanently sealed. Also that realtors be required to tell prospective buyers if a **well is present** on the property. **Ut01.92**

Environment and Ecology

DEQ Regulations (i.e., wood stoves, brush)

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) now requires all **wood burning stoves** to be equipped with a catalytic converter, and the costs of these converters are very high. The Oregon State Grange opposes DEQ's stand on wood burning stoves, and we ask that the legislature relax these stringent restrictions so that the rights of the public will not be infringed upon. **80.83, 79.84**

We believe that fire departments should have authority to issue **burning permits** within their respective districts. If there is no fire department then we believe there should be some appointed authority that knows the areas needs to issue these permits. The Department of Environmental Quality is not satisfactorily permitting rural burning, in our opinion, due to their lack of knowledge on the needs of local areas. **51.80**

We support legislation designed to eliminate conflicting requirements of government agencies, including but not limited to **mandatory mediation**. We also feel the regulated persons should be exempt from penalty until the government agencies resolve the conflicting requirements. **Le12.93**

Chemicals, Toxins, and Waste Disposal

The Oregon State Grange opposes the passage of any initiatives **banning the lawful use of herbicides** and pesticides. **Ag05.96**

The Oregon State Grange is in full support of the **controlled use** of Phenoxy herbicides 2,4-D, and 2,4,5-T. We ask the state of Oregon to lift the ban on the employment of these herbicides. We advocate their continued use on public lands and for agricultural uses, until such a time as a true impact of these toxicants can be thoroughly and impartially determined.

We further oppose any **ban on herbicides**, unless there is an authentic, proven test that they are detrimental to the health of humans and animals. **41.79, 16.80**

We go on record asking that the laws regarding **dumping of poisonous chemicals** and poisonous substances be more strictly enforced. Also, that industries see that more dumping stations are built to dispose of the pollutants that are now being dumped in areas that are dangerous to people.

Any new industries using water should also be required to **discharge this water** through a water purification system before it is released into streams, rivers, ponds or holding tanks. Existing industries falling into this category of water usage should be given deadlines to comply with these water purification programs. **19.84, EE02.90**

The Oregon State Grange resolves to work toward educating the public on the dangers of producing **bleached paper products**. We will work with the Oregon Legislature to encourage companies which produce paper products to stop bleaching for cosmetic reasons only. Many toxins, including Dioxin, are released into our environment through the process of bleaching paper. **EE01.90**

Many fuel sellers, especially small businesses in rural areas, are being forced by DEQ to be solely responsible for contaminated soil and water and for the cost of monitoring systems around old and new **underground tank** installations. The cost of insurance to cover this new responsibility is either not available or beyond the financial means of most service station and private tank owners. This is causing the closure or bankruptcy of many. The State Grange asks that funds from state and federal governments be made available to aid and maintain an adequate fuel supply in all areas. If sufficient funds are made available this should help prevent closures caused by these new underground tank regulations. **EE02.89**

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The State Grange believes that the site of past nuclear explosions in the Nevada desert should be considered as the logical place for a permanent **nuclear waste dump** due to previous contaminations. We ask that the Environmental Protection Agency consider this location. We oppose proposing the location of the Hanford Reservation as a permanent nuclear waste dump by the E.P.A. We urge our elected legislators, representatives of business, agricultural interests and public health officials to unite in opposition to preserve our irreplaceable natural assets. **73, 77.87**

We believe that only **waste generated within the state of Oregon** should be incinerated or buried here in the future. **EE03.90, reaffirmed EE02.08**

We support legislative action that would return the responsibilities of home building and **subsurface sewage** disposal to each individual county, instead of leaving it under the **jurisdiction** of the DEQ. **71.81**

We urge all Pomona Granges to lobby their County Commissioners for **methane plants** to produce electricity for their area. **Ut02.93**

Recycling

The Grange supports the **Oregon Bottle Bill**. We recognize the positive effect it has had on our ecology and communities. The Grange will continue to work with the Oregon Legislature to pass an additional bill that would include the containers of wine coolers, juices, drinks containing juices and other new drink containers into the original Oregon 'Bottle Bill'. **17.75, 85.88, EE02.96**

The Oregon State Grange supports **expanding** the Oregon Bottle Bill to include all beverage containers. **NR03.05**

The Oregon State Grange supports the formulation of legislation that would ban all **non-biodegradable** materials used by restaurants as packaging for take out foods. **EE01.89**

The Oregon State Grange supports legislation that would ban disposable polystyrene food and drink containers throughout Oregon. **Le03.08**

The Oregon State Grange will work with the Legislature to make **recycling mandatory** for all public agencies. We also believe that incentives to increase voluntary recycling in the private sector should be proposed. **86.88**

The Oregon State Grange encourages curbside recycling agencies to **accept plastics** along with other recyclables. **EE02.93**

The Oregon State Grange supports legislation to ban the use of all **unrecyclable plastic** bags and plastic packaging wrap in the State of Oregon **EE01.08**

The Oregon State Grange supports expansion of Oregon's beverage container deposit law to include **ALL non-biodegradable disposable beverage containers**. **EE01.10**

Preservation and Management of Our Environment

The Oregon State Grange goes on record recognizing the need for further research to assess marine mammal protection status, and the nature and extent of marine mammal fisheries interaction. This would help to develop and evaluate appropriate management measures to resolve resource conflicts. We believe that Congress should appropriate Section 109 funds so that Oregon and Washington can perform this needed research and then develop management programs. At that time they can request the return of state management authority over seals and sea lions in these states. **20.85**

The Oregon State Grange supports removal of **seals and sea lions** from the endangered species list.

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We further encourage U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service to establish a **harvest and hunt season** to keep the population of seals to reasonable limits.

The Oregon State Grange supports amendments to the **Marine Mammal Protection Act** which would allow harvest of excess population of seals, sea lions, and related species of marine mammals. **EE02.98**

We favor the Forest Service **controlling brush** in the state of Oregon in any manner that is good forest practice. **34.79**

We oppose experiments with **altered bacteria** in an open environment. We recommend that no experiments of this kind be allowed unless they can be proven safe. **13.87**

We support legislation that would require the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to develop an economic, environmental and societal impact statement; hold hearings and provide for written and oral comments when any fish or mammal **species is introduced** or reintroduced into any area of the State of Oregon. **NR04.93**

The Oregon State Grange shall support efforts to help the US commercial fishermen who are adversely affected by **restrictive regulations**. **FA02.02**

The Oregon State Grange opposes any effort to limit the methods of controlling vermin, predator, birds and fur bearing animals including the **banning of traps**. **Le04.00**

The Oregon State Grange seeks to require that all federal agencies assist state agencies, whenever requested, in the developing and implementing of agricultural and natural resources regulations and that federal agencies **supersede the authority** of state agencies only when progress to meet the federal standards and requirements are not being implemented. **NR02.02**

Endangered Species Act

The Oregon State Grange and the National Grange shall do everything in their power to have the **Endangered Species Act** of 1973 revised so it would mandate an environmental impact statement with public hearings in the involved area which would include impact on human welfare and the economics of the area concerned. It is most important that these environmental impact statements must be made before any action can be taken on the species in question. We believe that efforts for the preservation of endangered species should not have precedence over the economical survival of citizens in the affected region.

We ask that the Endangered Species Act be amended to require an environmental and economic study prepared and adopted by Congress before the Endangered Species Act can be enforced and that such amendment specify that if any agency issues rules or regulations having the force of law pursuant to this act, such rules or regulations must have an item by item review by Congress accompanied by **public hearings** before they become effective. **NR06.90, EE01, EE02.92**

The Oregon State Grange supports and shall aid, to the best of its ability, any legal action that will oppose current **extreme implementation** of the Endangered Species Act and relieve the burdens and restrictions placed upon our communities by bureaucratic and judicial action. **EE02.01**

The Oregon State Grange favors reauthorization of an amended Endangered Species Act (ESA) that creates a priority for the **economic health** of communities and the preservation of all native species and that the decisions on declaring the status of any species be made on science that has been peer-reviewed by the National Science Foundation. **EE05.01**

We request the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife and Oregon State University develop a model showing when (year) **salmonids** would have become a threatened or endangered species. The model would take into consideration that commercial, sport and Indian ceremonial harvests had continued at the same levels as they were conducted in the 1890's, with sport fishing and commercial regulations in

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place as they occurred through the interval from 1890 to this date. The Model would also consider with the Columbia and Snake River Dams as constructed to date and the warm water fishery for bass, walleye and other species. **NR01.95**

We request the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife, the US Fish & Wildlife Service, the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Tribal Councils of the Northwest Indians fund a cooperative research project in an effort to determine if the number of threatened and endangered Salmonid smolts of the Snake and Columbia Rivers going to the ocean, would be improved by an **acclimatizing program**. **NR02.95**

We request the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Tribal Councils of the Northwest Indians fund a cooperative research project effort to determine the **carrying capacity** for Salmonid fish (food supply) of the Snake and Columbia Rivers. **NR03.95**

The Oregon State Grange supports legislation that will expand the hunting season of **Canadian Geese** from November 1 to April 1 for all but endangered species and that the accidental killing of a listed endangered sub-species of Canadian geese while hunting shall be treated as a violation, not a felony, subject to a fine of not more than \$100 per incident and the confiscation of said bird(s). We encourage the Department of Fish and Wildlife to establish a reasonable bag limit, commensurate with that on the eastside of I-5. The Oregon State Grange supports legislation and administrative rules which will provide education of hunters on the proper identification of endangered sub-species of Canadian Geese so that accidental killings are reduced. We request the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife explore and encourage all suggested methods of scaring geese from threatened fields including the use of Border Collies and llamas. The Oregon State Grange recommends, as a last resort for dealing with the Canadian Goose problem in farmer's fields, that severely affected fields shall be leased as winter goose habitat and the farmers be compensated for their losses. **EE07.98**

The Oregon State Grange opposes any **re-introduction of wolves** to the State of Oregon. **NR02.99**

The Oregon State Grange opposes the US Forest Service '**Roadless Plan**' . **EE03.01**

Federal Affairs

Federal Services - Social Security

The State Grange opposes the taxation of an individual's **Social Security** income and we believe that monies funded for Social Security should not be used for any purpose other than retirement payments. We ask that every commitment to Americans, who qualify for Social Security and Medicare, be kept in good faith, and that Social Security benefits be restored to all American born in "**notch years**" (after 1916).

The Oregon State Grange supports the **Notch Fairness Act**.

FA03.01

We urge the Congress of the US to protect our Social Security and **Medicare** programs. Further that there should not be reductions in the cost of living increases for Social Security in order to help reduce the deficit. Also, any person who works after becoming eligible for Social Security payments should still receive his full payments regardless of the amount that he earns and should not be penalized by having Social Security payments cut.

We will work toward a change in calculating **percentage pay increases** for Social Security recipients so that they benefit all citizens on an equal dollar basis.

The State Grange of Oregon would support legislation that would make the Social Security Administration an **independent agency** and thus remove their trust funds from all deficit calculations. This would ensure the trust funds would only be used to pay Social Security benefits.

We also favor legislation to **end Social Security payments** to any student recipient that has completed the twelfth grade, or upon graduation from high school. For those students that wish to continue their education they could avail themselves of the low interest loans and grants available for those in need of financial help.

Any governmental **benefits (i.e. SS) to felons** should be suspended during the period of their incarceration, and we ask that said benefits not be restored to the convicted felon when paroled until no less than 6 months of exemplary behavior can be reported by his parole officer. The resumption of benefits shall be made effective on the date of the parole with no retroactive payment for the period of confinement allowed.

55.75, 10.80, 35.81, 11a, 11b, 32.85, 45, 73.88, HW07.89, FiA011, FiA02.92, Le01.91

We urge the creation an independent **Social Security Investment Board** which would be responsible for investing any surplus money from payroll deductions of American workers and that the "trustees" of this board must not be forced to lend all of the reserve to the U. S. Treasury and that they be free to invest the money in the best and most prudent manner.

FiA01.94

We work toward abolishing the use of **Social Security numbers** for identification by other than the Social Security Administration.

FA 02.03

The Oregon State Grange supports legislation that prohibits the broadcast of Social Security Numbers over **unsecured radio frequencies**.

Le9.05

We go on record as opposing earning limits placed on citizens who are forced into **early retirement** or taking widow benefits, or are between 65-69 years of age. We will do all that we can to bring about a change in the current laws and regulations concerning earning limits on Social Security benefits. **FiA03.94**

We strongly believe that anyone whose **disabilities** are the result of a self-inflicted felonious activity or the commission of a felony against another shall be disqualified from eligibility for federal SSI disability benefits.

HW01.94

Postal Service

The Oregon State Grange favors the return of our postal service to the **Federal Postal Department** as this would ensure more efficient mail service. We believe that service, not profit, should be the main goal in mail delivery.

The Oregon State Grange resolves to support the continuation of the flow of **mail to rural areas**, as well as affect non-profit organizational services. **32.76, 45.80, FiA04.92**

We will encourage a **roll back** in the library postal rate and urge that no future library postal rate increase be allowed which is in any amount greater than an accompanying typical postal rate increase. **FiA03.95**

Foreign and Domestic Services

We support legislation that would allow voters in a county or district to petition for the removal or **replacement of managers** who act beyond their authority. **Le10.94**

Much of the federal and state correspondence is written in legal and wordy language that the average person has difficulty understanding. We therefore believe that these **communications** should be written in simple and easily understood terms. **8.85**

The Oregon State Grange is in support of establishing a **Civilian Work Organization** to provide training and job opportunities for those individuals who are eligible for public assistance. Such job opportunities could be developed within public programs such as forestry, parks, and recreation. **85.87**

The Oregon State Grange favors legislation that would enact a law requiring only agricultural products be sent as aid **to foreign countries**, instead of monies and/or credits.

Many foreign countries do not recognize or obey **International Laws** and this puts American citizens' safety and lives in jeopardy. The Oregon State Grange goes on record in favor of cutting off all US aid and supplies to countries that take, hold or kill American citizens as hostages. We also favor the repeal of any aid to those countries that refuse to recognize International Law, or allow a take-over of U.S embassies or any property belonging to the U.S. Government. **2.80, 104.82, 64.88, FiA02.93**

The Oregon State Grange supports passage of '**The American Land Sovereignty Protection Act**' and urges the United States Congress to do the same. **FA08.98**

The Oregon State Grange support the deFAt of the "**Get Outdoors Act**" (H.R. 4100). **FA06.04**

The Oregon State Grange opposes the US National Park Service (NPS) Management take-over of the **Oregon Caves** tourist business. We support private enterprise as a relief to the taxpayers' burden. **FA09.98**

The Oregon State Grange shall work toward maintaining standard time throughout Oregon. **Le02.00**

Oregon State Grange supports returning to standard time throughout the year and encourages the National Grange to also support the change. **FA03.99**

The Oregon State Granges opposes the passage of the **Blanket Alien Amnesty Bill**. **FA07.02**

The Oregon State Grange supports rescinding the **War Emergency Power Act** of 1993. **FA05.01**

The Oregon State Grange supports the stand of the American Legion and the VFW on the return of **POWs and MIAs** so they can once again be united with their families and loved ones. **FA05.02**

The Oregon State Grange opposes any and all attempts to impose taxation of the citizens of the United States by the **United Nations** or any other international body. **FA08.01**

2010 Legislative Policies of the Oregon State Grange

The Oregon State Grange opposes any effort to subject the citizens of the United States to a one-world government (such as the United Nations) that does not maintain and guarantee to the people of the United States the same rights, freedoms and protections guaranteed by our current Constitution. Any such change would be considered an amendment to the Constitution of the United States which must be submitted to the states and the people of the United States of America for approval just as any other amendment to the Constitution. **FA10.01**

The Oregon State Grange opposes the formation of a **North American Union**. **FA03.07**

The Oregon State Grange supports legislation which would **prohibit integration of the United States and the European Union**. **FA11.07**

The Oregon State Grange opposes the establishment of **World Heritage Areas**, administered by the United Nations or any other non-United States of America governmental body, within the borders of the United States of America or any of its protectorates. **FA03.02**

The Oregon State Grange supports legislation that requires that if any of our United States of America service members and citizens are ever indicted and taken before the United Nations **International Criminal Court**, the United States must withdraw its membership from the United Nations. **FA06.02**

The Grange requests defeat of the **United Nations Codex Alimentarius Commissions**. **FA08.06**

The Oregon State Grange opposes **Executive Order #13528**, which establishes a Council of Governors and violates the Posse Comitatus Act and the 10th Bill of Rights. **FA07.10**

The Oregon State Grange opposes **Executive Order #13524**, which grants INTERPOL full diplomatic immunity. **FA10.10**

Federal Monetary Affairs

The Oregon State Grange believes that all foreign producers, within the United States, be required to pay an **export duty** on shipments abroad. Further that legislation be passed which will control foreign interests, and their investments, in the United States.

The Grange would also require out of state or foreign corporations to **register either a sale or purchase** (including sales or purchases made by or to the parent company) and to report the location of their home office. **18.76, 76.79, FA8.89**

We believe there should be enactment of the necessary legislation to investigate, audit and repeal the **Federal Reserve Act** of 1913. **32.82, 68.85**

On occasion land is purchased and held for governmental agencies and thus is off the **tax roll** sometimes for 10 years or more. The Grange believes this land should be left on the tax rolls until such time as it is deeded to public use. **53.86**

The State Grange believes all **tax loopholes** that allow large companies to receive subsidies, federal credits and guarantees, be halted. **65.88**

The Oregon State Grange supports increasing the **monthly tax deduction** allowed for host parents of international exchange students. **FA07.05**

The State Grange favors working to correct the inequity in the **finance rate** of Federal Land Bank loans. Currently the interest rates on these loans are on three levels, and this creates a hardship on smaller farmers. **63.87**

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The State Grange of Oregon takes a position that neither the Supreme Court, nor any lower court of the United States, shall have the power to instruct, or order a state or political subdivision thereof, or any official of such state or political subdivision, to lay or **increase taxes**. **FA08.90**

The Oregon State Grange encourages the use of any treasury surplus to decrease the **National Debt**. **FA04.98**

We support the adoption of rules in the U.S. Senate that would require that bills having a monetary impact of more than \$1 million not be passed using a **unanimous consent procedure**. **FA01.09**

The Oregon State Grange supports legislation to require **Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac** to relinquish their Government Sponsored Enterprises (GSE) status and become fully private institutions. **FA04.09**

We support passage of a law that will require **Credit Default Swaps, Loan Only Credit Default Swaps and all similar credit derivative instruments** to be federally regulated in the same manner as insurance companies and that this legislation include the right of the various states/territories of the U.S. to prosecute any firm(s) that sell these. **FA05.09**

US Flag, Anthem, and Pledge of Allegiance

We oppose any movement to remove the word '**God**' from the Pledge of Allegiance and/or the currency of the United States. We also urge that the Star Spangled Banner be retained unchanged as our National Anthem.

We also go on record in support of efforts to stop **flag desecration**. These efforts to stop flag desecration should be manifested as amendments to our Bill of Rights. **6.76, 27.79, 42.80, 108.88, FA01.90**

We will work with National Grange and Federal Legislators to pass the **Anti-Desecration** of the Flag Law. **FA01.95**

The Oregon State Grange favors having the **Pledge of Allegiance** become a part of each school day's proceedings. **Le10.99**

The Oregon State Grange strongly objects to the Ninth Circuit Court's decision rendering the Pledge of Allegiance unconstitutional due to inclusion of the phrase '**under God**'. **FA09.02**

English As Our Official Language

We oppose the use of **foreign languages** for highway signs, voting ballots, pamphlets etc., being printed at the taxpayers expense. In order to become a United States citizen a person has to read, write, and speak the English language.

The State Grange goes on record favoring the **adoption of English** as the official language of Oregon and the official language of the United States. English should be the primary language of usage for governmental, business, and educational pursuits as a means of promoting greater unity among all our peoples, and providing nothing herein be construed as discouraging the study or use of other languages.

We ask that our Congress declare the **English language** our National language. **36.77, 73.82, 81.88, Ed04.92, FA02.94**

Congress, Judges, and the President of the United States

The Oregon State Grange believes our Senators and Representatives should be in Congressional session during regular business and committee meetings, doing the job they were elected to perform. Any Senator or Representative that is absent due to '**moonlighting**' activities, such as making speeches, should apply the extra money earned as part of their regular salary.

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We support a ruling that would have State Legislative and Federal Congressional **pay increases voted** on, and approved by, the citizens within their jurisdictions. This approval to be voted on during a general election only.

No member of Congress or a member of the IRS or any other elected or appointed public official should be allowed to **deduct** more than \$3,000 per year, or 3% of their gross income whichever is greater, for **business expenses**.

The Grange also is in favor of a **limited term of office** for US Senators and Representatives, to a maximum of 12 years, for each of these offices. **9.82, 15.83, 47.85, FiA01a.89, FA10.90, FA02.92**

The State Grange would endorse legislation that would require all words spoken from the floor of the Congress be printed verbatim in 'The Congressional Record'. If changes are made by any Congressman, these changes shall be noted and printed in italics, with time and date of change, and the name or names of those making the changes. **43.83**

We urge Congress to change the method of choosing **Federal and District Judges**. The Grange feels that they should stand election every 6 years in their own districts. **FA10.89**

We go on record opposing any **increases in benefits** for past Presidents of the United States and their spouses. **FA06.90**

The Grange urges Oregon members of Congress to sponsor, or co-sponsor, legislation that would give our President **line-item veto authority**. **Le03.89, FA04.92**

The Grange supports retaining the provision in the Constitution to limit candidates for President to only **"natural born citizens"**. **FA03.05**

The Oregon State Grange shall request the US Congress to enact legislation causing **administrative rules** promulgated by the Executive Branch of the US Government to expire 120 days from their date of publication unless they are affirmed by Congress prior to their expiration. **FA06.01**

The Oregon State Grange shall oppose all attempts by any and all legislative bodies to abridge the right of free US citizens to **keep and bear arms**. **FA09.01, FA04.04**

The Oregon State Grange supports judges who are on the record as defending the **right to keep and bear arms**. **FA09.04**

The Oregon State Grange support the **"Writ of Habeas Corpus"**. **FA 04.03**

The Oregon State Grange support the creation of a new **Twelfth Circuit Court**. **FA 12.03**

The Grange supports the addition of the crime of income tax evasion to the crimes listed in Public Law No. 110-81, the "Honest Leadership and Open Government Act of 2007" in order that a **federal pension not be given to any Congressmen and Senators convicted of income tax evasion**. **FA02.09**

National Elections and Electoral College

The Oregon State Grange requests the Oregon members of Congress to sponsor, or co-sponsor, legislation that will establish **uniform poll closing** hours in national elections. We are also in favor of federal legislation to prohibit the release of any information concerning presidential election trends until all polls are closed. This legislation should also include penalties for violators.

The Oregon State Grange and the National Grange shall work for passage of a law to prevent announcing (releasing) any returns until all **polls** in the United States **have closed**. **FA04.01**

We are in favor of the elimination of the **Electoral College**. We feel voters should be electing the President and Vice-President of the United States in a direct manner. **38.81, FA01, FA03.89**

The Oregon State Grange support legislation the use of the **paper ballot** rather than electronic voting machines in all elections. **FA05.04**

Federal Lands

The Oregon State Grange supports legislation requiring the State of Oregon to set up and maintain a tracking system and inventory of all **lands 'lost' to federal ownership** and evaluate the economic impacts on the state and counties concerned.

We further request the State Legislature to review all existing state statutes authorizing **federal land acquisitions** in Oregon, with a view of making them more restrictive and subject to closer state legislative scrutiny for economic impact, and for legislation requiring a 'no net loss of tax base policy' for all future federal land 'acquisitions' (increase in federal ownership), within the state.

The Oregon State Grange supports legislative action directing all branches of the State Government to actively lobby the National government for '**mitigation' for identified losses** of Oregon land from the state tax base due to federal acquisition through transfer of an equivalent acreage from the federal inventory to State ownership, or by providing (by irrevocable Congressional Legislation), an annual 'payment-in-lieu-of-taxes' (PILT), based on an independent economic impact analysis to be adjusted annually for inflation. **FA03.98**

The Oregon State Grange supports amending the Nation Antiquities Act to include public comment, and supports the National Monument Public Participation Act of 1999 or other similar federal legislation that will ensure public and legislative participation and an inventory of the natural resources and economic impact of creating new and expanded monuments, parks and wilderness areas. **NR03.99**

The Oregon State Grange seeks to repeal all laws allowing the Federal Government to gain exclusive jurisdiction over previously held private lands without specific approval of the Oregon State Legislature and the County government(s) in which the land is located. **FA07.01**

Statehood

The Oregon State Grange opposes legislation enabling Washington, DC, to become the **51st state**. **16.79**

The Oregon State Grange opposes **statehood for Puerto Rico** until Congress removes the mandated 435 seat cap from the House of Representatives in order to restore one Congress person for every thirty thousand people as their Representative per article 1, Section 2-3 of the U.S. Constitution. **FA09.10**

The Metric System

The State Grange supports the continued voluntary change over to the **Metric System**. **FA07.89**

Gay Rights and Discrimination

The Grange goes on record opposing the **Gay Rights Amendment**. **26.81**

National Drivers License

The Oregon State Grange opposes H.R. 4633, the Drivers License Modernization Act of 2002 (National I.D. cards) and any other similar legislation. **FA01.03, reaffirmed FA01.08**

Personal Information

The Grange supports a measure to prohibit the giving or selling of personal information by the Internal Revenue Service or tax preparers. **FA2.06**

Control of the Internet

The Grange supports that the United States will maintain control of the Internet. **FA7.06**

Immigration

The Grange opposes the US/Mexico Social Security Treaty. **FA4.06**

The Grange supports the passage of Citizenship Reform Act. **FA9.06**

The Grange supports legislation permitting law enforcement agencies to report individuals without proper documentation to the proper federal authorities. **Le03.07**

The Oregon State Grange is opposed to allowing illegal immigrants access to Oregon Drivers licenses. **Le01.08**

We support legislation requiring every employer in Oregon to use the **E-Verify Program**. **Le04.09**

The Oregon State Grange supports legislation that would require the State of Oregon to support and **enforce the Federal Immigration Law** as it is currently written. **Le07.10**

U.S. Constitution

The Grange supports the U.S. Constitution and will oppose any Congressional effort to violate the Constitution. **FA06.07**

We ask the U.S. Congress to protect our Bill of Rights by supporting the passage of H.R. 450 entitled "**The Enumerated Act**". **FA09.09**

The Oregon State Grange favors passage of an **amendment to the United States Constitution**, which provides that the "Congress shall make no law that applies to the citizens of the United States that does not apply equally to the Senators or Representatives; and Congress shall make no law that applies to the Senators or Representatives that does not apply equally to the citizens of the United States." **FA06.10**

Reinstatement of U.S. Border Patrol Agents

The Grange supports reinstatement of U.S. Border Patrol agents Compean and Ramos. **FA04.07**

Financial Affairs

Taxes - Establishment, Collection, and Distribution

The Oregon State Grange supports a return to **local control** of land assessments. These controls to be handled by locally nominated and elected tax assessors. **FIACR.76**

The Grange proposes to work with the Oregon Legislature to enact an amendment to Measure 5 to **limit annual property assessment** increases to no more than 1%. **FiA03.92**

We reaffirm our historical position on taxes. This position supports reasonable **property taxes** that do not penalize the farmer, the homeowner, or those on fixed incomes. Reasonable property taxes should also be coupled with an income tax that the working man can live with.

The Oregon State Grange has long been in support of the **homestead exemption** as one way to accomplish this task. We support an amendment to the state constitution to provide that a 1.5% tax on real property shall be applicable only to owner-occupied houses.

We propose to contact other like-minded groups to co-sponsor and write an initiative petition based on the **Homestead Exemption** concept to reduce income producing property to a tax rate of no more than 2.5%. **Le05.93**

We oppose the present income tax laws which **discriminate against married couples**. They should be changed so that the zero bracket amount between single and married people is equalized. **96.78, 77.80, 3.83, FiA02.91**

The State Grange believes that domestic property owners should be given the same privileges as foreign investors. They also should be given the right to use their local property taxes as a credit against federal and state **income taxes**.

We support a **tax credit** up to \$5,000 for **first time home buyers**. **FiA02.91**

In addition, owners should not be obligated to pay taxes on property when **permits for improvements are being denied**. Taxes are increasing constantly on parcels of property that cannot be developed consistent with the assessed valuation. Further property tax measures should be voted on by property owners only. **22, 35.76, 87.86**

The Oregon State Grange will work toward passage of a law that would change the requirements placed on banks to have all **real estate reappraised** when loans are renewed, as long as the debtor/borrower is not in default. **FiA01.92**

We believe that steps should be undertaken to ensure that anyone paying property taxes by mail would receive a **receipt by mail**, without the bother and expense of furnishing a self-addressed stamped envelope for that purpose. **50.83**

We support **Tax Policy** that:

1. Leaves owner occupied residential property at less than a 2.0% rate or has a Homestead Exemption of no less than \$50,000 adjusted for inflation annually.
2. Raises the income producing property rate to no more than a 3.0% rate and/or gives an exemption of no more than \$60,000 adjusted for inflation annually.
3. Adds additional graduated income and corporation tax brackets for income over \$75,000.
4. Maintains agricultural and forestry property tax exemptions.

5. Opposes any sales or transaction tax. FiA04.94

The State Grange opposes a special assessment levied annually 'upon each **mobile home** that is assessed for ad valorem property tax purposes as personal property'. This tax is levied on all mobile homes, not only those mobile homes located in parks, but only those persons located in parks will benefit by this tax. We would support efforts to repeal this law.

We are also opposed to creating a one-time **special assessment** on Mobile Homes. The money raised by this assessment again aids only those in Mobile Home Parks, but is collected from all mobile home owners, regardless of their location. We ask for the repeal of this law, with the monies already collected to be refunded. Le05-06.90

The Oregon State Grange goes on record in strong opposition to the taxation of properties belonging to religious, fraternal, charitable or educational organizations, while these properties are being used for **non-profit** purposes. This would be in exception to their 'for profit' enterprises. 6.81, Le12.92

We resolve to work to preserve a 15-year tax freeze on **historical buildings**, placed on the National Historic Register. Le06.92

The Oregon State Grange believes that state wide tax issues should be voted on at a **general election**, rather than at special elections. 16.83

We support legislation that would levy a substantial recreation and property tax upon all lands under **hunting or fishing leases**. 64.84

The Grange stands in opposition to national war tax. FiA01.91

We support the **Taxpayer Protection Act**. This act limits the Internal Revenue Service to strictly a collection agency, thus removing many of its police like powers. 115.82

The Grange opposes the **IRS audit guidelines** that would classify corporate sponsorships as advertising, making the events thus sponsored classified as unrelated business income and any net revenue generated taxable to the corporate sponsor. We will work to prevent these from becoming law. FiA03.92

The Oregon State Grange recommends that the Federal Legislature enact a bill that would cause the **Internal Revenue Service** to treat the individual as assumed innocent unless the service can prove them guilty. FiA02.98

The Oregon State Grange strongly opposes a **sales tax**. A sales tax is a regressive tax and would affect low income taxpayers as much, or more, than it would the wealthy. We strongly support a genuine farm, residential, and small business property tax relief and we seek alternatives to the current, unfair property tax system that does not include a sales tax, or any other flat tax not based on the ability to pay.

The Grange believes efforts should be made to **reduce government spending** rather than creating new taxes. 12.80, 4.82, 57.83, FiA05.91

The State Grange is in favor of abolishing **prisoner lawsuits** that are paid for by tax monies. 49.83

We support legislation that would stop all taxpayers funds from being used to support or oppose any endeavors or **ballot measures**. In addition no group, or consortium of groups, commercial companies, or a combination, should be allowed to spend more than \$10,000 for or against any ballot measure.

The Grange further believes that Oregon laws should be amended to provide a 100 percent **tax credit** for contributions made for, or against, a measure up to the same \$50 and \$100 limit now allowed for

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political candidates. Candidates should also have a limit of expenditures equal to two years salary for the office he or she is seeking. **2.79, 21 & 32.81, 48.83**

The Grange urges the introduction of an amendment to the constitution which would prohibit our legislators from **delegating taxing authority** to appointed commissions. **28.82**

We recommend that no funding be allowed for local government **boundary commissions**, and the Grange believes an enactment of appropriate legislation transferring any necessary boundary functions to locally elected officials be accomplished. **90.79**

The State Grange supports the concept that a board or commission, or other like body which has taxing powers or wide regulatory functions (i.e., Tri-met, the Port of Portland, LCDC) be **elected bodies**. Also that any tax measures, or changes in taxes proposed by such bodies, should be subject to referral. Also that no more restrictions be placed upon these referrals than any other referrals. **63.76**

The Oregon State Grange is opposed to a **unitary tax**, and we will not support any such tax in the future. We feel it does not encourage new industry and growth. **28.84**

We go on record against the implementation of any additional **user fees**. **Le10.89**

The Oregon State Grange will work to remove the limit for individual **federal income tax deduction** on the Oregon State income tax return. **Le04.99**

The Oregon State Grange supports legislation allowing **deduction for real property taxes** on income tax forms without having to itemize other deductions. **FA7.07**

The Oregon State Grange supports legislation ensuring that all single land parcels over 10 acres currently on the **tax rolls** cannot be removed from the tax rolls without specific approval of the county in which the land is located and the State Legislature. **FiA03.01**

The Oregon State Grange encourages the United States Congress to repeal the **Federal Death Tax**. **FiA01.02**

The Oregon State Grange opposes legislation to increase **lodging taxes** or that converts the Oregon Tourism Commission to a semi-independent state agency. **Le06.03**

The Grange supports the Oregon **"Kicker" Law**. **Le12.06**

The Oregon State Grange supports having all increases in public revenue put to a vote in the affected jurisdictions. **Le05.08**

The Grange contends that all wage garnishments from any source or authority must be considered as a total sum and follow I.R.S. rules currently in place for I.R.S.-only garnishments. **FA10.09**

The Oregon State Grange supports legislation to amend the Internal Revenue Code to impose a **securities transaction tax** on the sale or purchase of stocks, options, and futures. **FA11.10**

Banking Institutions

The Oregon State Grange opposes the present 10% **Saver/Investor law** which deducts 10% from the interest and dividends you earn on savings. We urge that action be taken for the repeal of this law. **60.83**

The State Grange believes that check **cashing fees** charged by banks where you do not have an account should be eliminated as an unfair practice to customers. **84.88**

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The Grange supports leaving member owned **credit unions** alone. Banks are urging Congress to tax the credit unions as public businesses, and to make credit union funds available to the bank holdings because of their solid funds and investments. **FiA01.90**

The Grange supports efforts to amend the **Federal Credit Union Act** to allow federally chartered credit unions to have Select Employee Group members. **FiA02.97**

The Oregon State Grange supports pending legislation in our nation's congress which would allow individuals to **join the credit union** of their choice provided that it is not against credit union By-Laws. **FiA03.98**

We believe that being charged twice for the use of an **ATM card** is wrong and will work to make surcharges for the use of ATM cards illegal. **FiA01.97**

We believe that no one should be allowed to request a **credit report** on any individual without the written permission of the individual involved. **FiA01.99**

Governmental Structures and Expenses

The Oregon State Grange believes information about local governments being authorized to enter into **contractual agreements** with fire departments for rural fire protection, at a slight increase in taxes, ought to be made better known to the rural people. These contracts can be made according to ORS.190. **45.75**

We ask that the Oregon State **spending limit** be maintained as is, and that all taxes collected be used only for the original allotted purpose. **Le09.89**

The State Grange stands on the belief that any federal budget should operate on money generated. To operate with a deficit is unconstitutional, and the federal government should be required to bring the federal spending within the limits of federal income. We further believe in requiring a **balanced budget**, except in times of severe national emergency. **107.82**

We oppose the elimination of **racing funds** to **County Fairs** and will work to see these funds are included in the budget to be approved by the Legislature. **FiA03.93**

We oppose the elimination of **Lottery funds** to County Fairs and will work to see these funds are included in the budget to be approved by the Legislature. **FiA04.93**

The Oregon State Grange seeks to provide an adequate and permanent source of funding for the **county fairs** in Oregon. **Le09.99**

We support '**no cuts**' to County Fair appropriations. **Le13.93**

The Oregon State Grange is in favor of requiring **full repayment** of funds and/or property lost by theft or misappropriation by the public official or employee who has committed the offense. Also that a fair share of the cost of prosecution and investigation be paid in addition to the fine and/or imprisonment. **73.81**

The Oregon State Grange opposes any public funding for any **professional sports stadium** in Oregon. **FiA02.01**

Health and Welfare

Penalties For, and the Use and Sale Of, Illegal Drugs

The Oregon State Grange reaffirms our position concerning the restrictions and regulations on the traffic, sale, penalties, and the use of addictive drugs. We believe that all health and educational facilities be urged to stress the dangers incurred by anyone who is, or may become, addicted to drug use. We support the principles of '**A Drug Free America**', and we support public and private educational programs designed to deal with the issue of illegal drugs, and the misuse of legal drugs.

The State Grange believes that the importation, manufacturing, growing, and distributing of illegal drugs should be classified as **capital offenses** under state and federal statutes. We support legislation which would require the courts to impose penalties equal to the penalty for pre-meditated murder, without the possibility of parole, for all persons convicted of the manufacture and/or distribution of any and all illegal drugs.

We would also favor legislation that would enact a ban on the **sale of paraphernalia** used with narcotics, and we believe a very stiff penalty should be levied to discourage these sales.

The State Grange goes on record in opposition to the **legalization of marijuana** in the state of Oregon.
73.80, 22.82, 8, 68, 69.86, HW06.89, Le04.90

The Oregon State Grange supports legislation to increase the arrest, prosecution, conviction and incarceration of Methamphetamine offenders. Also to include rehabilitation and victim restitution programs before they are released.
Le10.05

The Use of Alcoholic Beverages

The Oregon State Grange stands in opposition to lowering the **legal drinking age** on alcoholic beverages. We are also opposed to any changes made in how alcoholic drinks are currently being dispensed, and we believe the OLCC and the state outlet liquor stores should be maintained as they are now. We ask that private business not be allowed to take control of this industry.
68, 94.78

We support legislation that would prohibit the sale of **fortified wines** with an alcohol content of 20% or more, except in liquor stores.
HW02.91

The Grange believes that there should be increased legislative controls enacted surrounding the problem of **driving while under the influence**, and that punishments associated with this crime should be strengthened. Also that injury and death resulting from this crime should carry the charge against the offender of assault with a deadly weapon, and that the offender will be held solely responsible for their crime, not sharing the liability with any third party.

Finally to protect citizens and ease the burden of higher taxes raised to enforce the control of drunk driving and driving under the influence of illegal drugs, a procedure should be taken to confiscate vehicles and other materials used in drug and drunk driving incidents.

We feel a minimum jail term of at least two years upon conviction and full restitution in the case of property damage or personal injury should be made.
Tr04.93, Le06.94

Health Care and Health Care Providers

We urge the Oregon State Dental Board to add accredited **dental schools** in the Eugene and Klamath Falls area to the current Portland location. This would provide more locations where students could take their State Board Examinations.
67.75

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The State Grange support legislation to ensure that in an emergency situation, when a panel of three doctors agree that surgery is necessary and the patients natural parents or case worker cannot be reached, the **approved treatment** for the child can be performed. 6.77

We support the practice of allowing hospitals and emergency rooms to issue a prescription for short term (not to exceed 45 days) **handicapped parking permits**. HW07.92

We strongly feel that it should be mandatory that all Physicians and Pharmacists give out to their customers the information concerning **side effects** and warnings provided by the manufacturer with every prescription they write or fill. HW01.91

We favor placing mentally deficient and emotionally disturbed children and adults in community based residential or non/residential group or foster homes. This would be preferable to placement in state institutions and nursing homes. In **group or foster homes** these people have the chance to learn academic and vocational skills that they would not get otherwise. 15, 57.77

The Oregon State Grange urges revision of Oregon Administrative Rules to provide a more realistic guideline on the staffing of **nursing homes**. We also believe that the quality of care in these facilities should be more closely monitored by an independent agency, such as a senior citizen organization. 72.88

The Grange believes that **Alzheimer disease** should be recognized by public and private agencies as a general body disorder which destroys the entire body. Also, that these agencies accept their responsibilities to the public and to their policy holders in connection with this disease. 77.86

The Oregon State Grange supports any program, as well as legislative efforts, that address the **rural health crisis**. We also support the Oregon Area Health Education Center, the State Office of Rural Health, and the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy. We recognize and applaud all state and local efforts to recruit and retain rural health care providers. HW03.89

We ask that state of Oregon become involved in the licensing and regulation of **day care centers** and day care workers. This involvement would include looking into past records, such as police files and past places of employment. There could then be a more reliable system of checking on these care facilities and workers. 72.85

The Oregon State Grange opposes any legislation that would lower, to the age of 16, the end of a **parent's legal responsibilities** of raising their children. 46.76

We urge requiring all medical providers to post prices of all non emergency services they provide and limit their billings to the **posted prices**. HW01.94

We support legislation to **limit costs** of hospitalization, medical care and prescription drugs. HW02.94

We urge all members to contact State and Federal Representatives and Congressmen to investigate high prices of **prescription drugs**. HW02.93

The Grange supports eligibility for Medicare Part D Prescription Drug coverage regarding gross annual income. HW8.06

We urge the U. S. Congress to require that any health care legislation enacted include provisions to require some **direct patient payment** on every visit to a health care provider. HW02.94

The Grange supports permanent funding for **rural first responders**, EMT continuing education programs and the Mobile Training Unit of the Oregon Health Division. HW01.9

The Oregon State Grange support the creation of an **impact fund** from the state room tax receipts to help pay for search and rescue costs incurred by counties. Le09.04

The Oregon State Grange supports efforts to keep the **National Practitioners Data Base** and let people have access to these reports so they can properly choose the best medical professionals for themselves. **HW01.98**

The Oregon State Grange opposes use of tax money by the Oregon Health Plan to pay for any **sex change procedures**. **HW06.98**

Controlling and Dispensing Food

The Oregon State Grange supports amendments to federal food and drug laws that would require scientific balancing of values in the evaluation of **food additives**. We further support the concept of 'no affect,' or 'biological zero,' as a regulatory base for food additives. This would replace the concept of 'chemical zero,' since modern chemical analysis can detect extremely small quantities, thousands of times less than those which can cause biological damage. **74.77**

Senior meal sites are also of primary importance to the elderly, not only for aid in giving them a balanced nutritional diet, but also for the social contact. We therefore believe that revenue sharing funds for this purpose should not be curtailed. **23.83, 10.85**

We request that restaurant associations urge their members to provide **alternate menu** choices allowing for small portions for Senior Citizens. We are also in favor of legislative action that would require all business establishments where food is served and consumed to provide restrooms for their customers. **12.84, HW05.89**

The Grange supports the "**Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act**" and opposes the "**Dietary Supplement Access and Awareness Act**". **HW02.06**

The Grange opposes the passage of the "National Uniformity Food Act". **HW03.06**

General Health

The Oregon State Grange supports the State Law banning **smoking** in public places and we encourage individual Granges to prohibit smoking in their halls. **65.87, HW08.92**

The Oregon State Grange requests a waiver of fees for inspections of **chair lifts** for non-profit organizations. **HW01.92**

The Grange is concerned over the growing trend made by our federal, state, and local governmental agencies to search for safety hazards that might threaten our lives. We believe that laws to protect us from ourselves, that are now appearing in increasing numbers, are an affront. **20.86**

The Grange supports the legislation to mandate the testing of **newborns for hearing loss** prior to release from the hospital. **HW02.96**

The Grange supports and advocates **Grandparent's rights**. **Le04.96**

The Oregon State Grange encourages legislation supporting the housing medical needs and the best interest of the **disabled population**. **HW03.98**

The Oregon State Grange supports standardization of all future **seat belt fasteners** and releases. **HW04.98**

The Oregon State Grange supports, as a punishable crime, the **use of such drugs** as Rohypnol, GHB, and Ketamine on anyone for the purpose of **procuring sex**. **HW03.01**

We ask that when **experimental drugs** are used by the physician, the warning and permission form must be in clear common layman language on a separate form from other medical forms; and that the Oregon State Grange and the National Grange work to secure legislation making it a criminal offense

for physicians to administer experimental drugs without specific written approval of the patient or those legally authorized to give it (approval). **HW04.01**

The Oregon State Grange requests the rejection of the **Model Emergency Health Powers Act**. **HW02.02**

The Oregon State Grange support legislation to extend the financing of test for breast and cervical cancer screening. **HW02.04**

We urge increased spending on the **WIC/ Senior Farm Direct Program** to provide enough money to serve most eligible seniors and more eligible women and children to improve their health while also improving the farmers' livelihood in these economic hard times. **Le14.09**

Firearms

The Oregon State Grange opposes actions that would interfere with the second amendment, and our **freedom to keep guns** as personal private property. We would oppose any legislation that would restrict the ownership of firearms, except those restrictions imposed upon convicted felons. **21.77, Le06.89**

We support legislation which would require the courts to impose **maximum penalties**, without possibility of parole, on all persons convicted of using a firearm of any description, real or fake, in the commission of a felony. **Le05.90**

We oppose passage of Congressional H.R. 45, entitled "**Blair Holt Firearm Licensing & Record of Sales Act of 2009**" and other gun acts before Congress that infringe upon our 2nd Amendment Gun Rights and, if Congress will not reject these gun laws, we call upon the U.S. Supreme Court, through its judicial review process, to rescind these anti-gun laws. **FA08.09**

Crime, Victims of Crime, Criminal Sentences, and Parole

We as Grangers resolve to become more involved with **Oregonians Against Crime** for the purpose of helping in any way we can, within our policies, in the fight against crime. We also wish to lend our support to efforts undertaken by other groups to achieve equal rights for victims of crime and equal protection in the judicial process.

The State Grange supports legislative action which would financially **assist crime victims**, or their heirs, whose loss occurred in the state of Oregon. As part of the sentence given the convicted criminal we would like to see the requirement that restitution be made to each victim of any and all acts committed against them. **56.75, 73.85, 6.88, HW04.89**

We resolve to work to have Oregon law changed to provide that when a criminal who has been convicted of a crime of violence is released from prison, paroled, furloughed, placed on work release, or moved from one prison to another the **victim** or close family member **shall be notified** well in advance of the date and time of such release. **4.88, Le01.90**

We believe that in cases of rape, murder or kidnapping that these cases not be postponed or dropped due to a technicality if the evidence has shown that the defendant is guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. The State Grange is also in favor of laws requiring that juveniles be bound over to adult court for the crimes of murder, felony, rape and grand larceny. We urge the reversal of ORS 419.567 which is designed to protect the anonymity of juvenile offenders. We believe that if the names of these offenders were made public, along with the name of their parents, this would have a tendency to decrease juvenile crime by increasing parental awareness of their responsibilities. We support lowering the remand age to 12 years of age. **Le03.94**

We would support legislation that would require the prosecution of any crime, no matter what its type, and that prosecution of crime not be withheld due to **lack of police funds**. We are troubled about the current lack of concern surrounding the injury and damage of property of the citizens of this state. **11, 31.77, 34.78, 57.84**

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We ask that dangerous violent criminals be confined in prison to **serve** out their entire sentence time **without parole**. Also that those serving for lesser crimes be required to make restitution for those crimes.

We believe that **Parole Boards** should be restricted in their power as follows:

1. Persons convicted of premeditated murder shall not be eligible for parole,
2. Persons convicted of murder during the commission of another crime, or attempting to avoid apprehension, shall not be eligible for parole,
3. Persons convicted of killing police officers or prison guards shall not be eligible for parole,
4. No person shall be eligible for parole until he has served at least two-thirds of his sentence as imposed by the court.

We favor legislation to prohibit the Oregon State Board of Parole, and the correction Division of the State of Oregon, from **transferring the custody** and control of an Oregon parolee or probationer to the custody and control of another state, until he or she has posted a bond of sufficient value to cover the expense of his or her return to the State of Oregon from any jurisdiction within the limits of the United States. Also, that no parolee or probationer be permitted to visit any state except those abutting the state of Oregon, unless such a bond is posted. **33.80, 36.81**

The State Grange is in favor of the **death penalty**. **26.75**

The Oregon State Grange support legislation to **limit the number of appeals** by a person sentenced to the death penalty to two additional beyond those required by statute. **Le02.04**

We believe that those whose criminal acts of taking a life would automatically require the **death penalty** of that/those person(s) without possibility of a lesser sentence, except in self-defense, defense of family, property, fellow man or accidental death. **1.95**

The Oregon State Grange supports the Child Predator Act of 2005 and any other similar legislation. **FA09.05**

The Grange supports efforts to create a registration, both on a state and national level, of persons convicted of **sex-related crimes**. This information should be made available, and used, when sentencing repeat offenders.

We further believe that all convicted **sex offenders** shall be required to complete a sex offender treatment program before release on parole, or as a condition of any probation. Failure to complete a treatment program as ordered by the court will result in the immediate revocation of probation and/or parole and sentencing to the maximum term of imprisonment allowed under the law. **FA03, FA05.90, HW044, HW05.92**

The Oregon State Grange support **longer prison sentences** for those convicted of felony sexual crimes against adolescent children under the age of 14. **Le03.04**

The Oregon State Grange support legislation to not allow mental illness or incapacity because of the use of drugs or alcohol as a **defense for felony sexual crimes**. **Le07.04**

The Oregon State Grange supports the adoption of any Oregon legislation which would change language in the Oregon Revised Statutes to have public and private elementary and secondary schools and licensed day care centers be listed specifically as places 'children are likely to be present' in determining where convicted **pedophiles** live. **Le02.01**

The Oregon State Grange shall encourage the Oregon State Legislators to write and pass a law prohibiting the act of willful, malicious, and repeated acts of following or **harassing** another person. The

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offender must present a credible threat of intent to place that person(s) in reasonable fear of death or great bodily harm.

We propose to work with the Oregon legislature to enact a law making **stalking** a crime. **Le14.93**

We propose to work with the Oregon Legislature to reduce or eliminate the use of a **plea bargaining**, tighten the parole system and encourage the use of the death penalty for incorrigible convicted felons. **Le02.94**

We will work to make kidnapping punishable as a Federal offense with stricter enforcement. **FA2.95**

The Oregon State Grange supports holding parents accountable in the form of parenting classes and or fines, for their minor children's criminal acts. We further support holding minor children accountable for their criminal acts. **HW02.98**

The Oregon State Grange favors legislation that would make it a felony, punishable by a fine of not less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) and a jail sentence of 15 months or more for the theft of the **equipment used by handicapped persons**. **HW01.01**

The Grange supports legislation to assure that **convicted felons** are **not allowed voting privileges** while they are still incarcerated. **Le16.06**

The Oregon State Grange supports legislation that would change the law to have **charges expunged from the record** of a person when the charges are dropped or that person is found innocent of a crime in a court of law at no cost to the defendant. **Le04.08**

We endorse the establishment of a Criminal Justice Reform Commission to identify the systemic causes of **wrongful convictions** and actively work with the Innocent Project to Exonerate the Innocent and that the related criminal record for someone wrongly convicted of crime(s) be expunged. **Le11.09**

The Oregon State Grange opposes any policy that condones detention, interrogation, or military custody for persons considered to be **"suspected enemy belligerents."** **FA08.10**

Police Officers, Correction Officials and Criminal Facilities

The Oregon State Grange will work to oppose any budget cuts that would result in the reduction of the number of beds available to hold **serious juvenile offenders**.

The Oregon State Grange shall work to maintain the current funding level for the Oregon Department of Corrections. **Le08.92**

The Oregon State Grange supports legislation making it a criminal offense to **impersonate a police officer**. **Le01.92**

The Grange supports legislation that would protect **high value farm land** from being converted to prison sites. **Le08.97**

The Oregon State Grange supports establishment of a **"bare bones" austere plan** for all present and future prisons. **HW05.98**

The Grange favors a return to **dedicated funding for the Oregon State Police**. **Le10.06**

Insurance

Insurance Coverage and Settlements

We believe that the best health and medical treatment is the goal of all, and we recognize that acupuncture has been used for centuries. We would like to convey to the State Legislature, and the US Congress, our desire to have the obstacles acupuncture has encountered with insurance coverage removed. **50.81**

We will work with State Legislators and the Insurance Commissioner to correct the **'list of dependents'** to include parents in need. **In03.95**

The State Grange resolves to work with members of the Oregon Legislature to get the problem of **high liability insurance** and settlement under control. This could be done by some or all of the following remedies:

1. Jury awards must have reasonable limits for non-economic damages, such as pain and suffering,
2. Punitive damages, if awarded, should go to the state rather than to the injured party and/or attorney,
3. A person engaged in illegal activities should not be entitled to damage awards,
4. Lawyers' contingency fees should be limited by limiting general damages to 15% of the real damages and fees not to exceed this limit,
5. Liability should be assessed only in proportion to actual fault attributed to each negligent party, and a separate judgment rendered for that amount, and
6. Each person be responsible for his or her own actions.

The Oregon State Grange opposes **'Deep Pocket'** policies. Since each person is responsible for his own actions, awards of lawsuits should be limited to economic damages, and no second suit should be allowed by the same plaintiff after an award has been made. **18, 22.86, 49.87**

We favor a change in the liability laws to state that a person entering privately-owned property, property not used as a place of business, of their own free will, will assume **all accident liability**. **20.80**

The Oregon State Grange asks the state to enact legislation to place limits or **caps upon awards** or judgments and that such controls be accompanied by laws passed to regulate insurance companies with the hope of bringing the insurance companies into accountability to the public. Such controls would make insurance governing bodies accessible to the public, rather than only to insurance underwriters. **76.87**

The State Grange favors mandatory notification to the Oregon Department of Motor Vehicles upon the **cancellation of insurance** of a motorist. We also feel that the DMV should require new proof of liability insurance within 30 days of this notification of cancellation of the insurance policy. If no new proof is given then the DMV would cancel the vehicle license, unless said vehicle is verified inoperable. **8.82, 6.87**

We favor a study of the adoption of a statewide **impound program** for uninsured motorists. **In02.93**

We feel legislation is needed to prevent purchases of cars without proper **proof of drivers license** and **insurance** coverage. **In01.94**

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The Oregon State Grange supports informing drivers involved in an accident of any **proposed settlement** and given an opportunity to appeal the proposal before an impartial referee authorized to recommend changes in the proposal, prior to payment of any claims by an insurance company.

In02.98

The Oregon State Grange supports requiring insurance companies **pay claims** within 45 days of receiving properly completed forms and bills.

HW02.01

The Oregon State Grange request American Medical Association (AMA) and hospital insurance, private insurance, workers' compensation insurance, and state and federally funded insurance to issue guidelines discouraging the use of the term '**recreational drugs**' when referring to illegal drugs.

HW07.01

The Oregon State Grange oppose any tax levy on **Auto Insurance policies**.

Le01.03

The Oregon State Grange supports a ban on the use of **credit reports** in determining insurance rates.

Le03.10

Legislation

Miscellaneous Current Resolutions

- The Oregon State Grange supports allocating from the Administrative Services Economic Development Fund to the **County Fair Account** an amount equal to 1.2 percent of net proceeds from the Oregon State Lottery for the purpose of carrying out the operations of county fairs including the payment of administrative costs. **Le03.01**
- The Oregon State Grange shall support term limiting all legislators to 12 years in either or both houses. **Le05.01**
- The Oregon State Grange favors repeal of the \$80,000 income and the one-year-limit laws for placing dwelling in EFU zones if the property in question formerly contained a habitable dwelling. **Le07.01**
- The Oregon State Grange supports the elimination of the \$80,000 income requirement (and other arbitrary and unrealistic requirements) to qualify for a **farm dwelling** on land zoned EFU. **Le08.98**
- We ask that the State of Oregon **reimburse Juror mileage** at the federal standard; and that the Juror time be reimbursed at the Oregon State minimum wage. **Le10.01**
- The Oregon State Grange will support legislation calling for an organization/board/commission to organize events and to approve emblems, mascots, and insignia to be used to promote **Oregon's 150th birthday**; and that the organization/board/commission shall be made up of at least 9 members with at least 3 each appointed by the Governor, President of the Senate, Speaker of the House and at least 2 shall be members of an Oregon Grange. **Le06.02, reaffirmed GPA02.08**
- The Oregon State Grange supports changing the rules and regulations so that a **home inspector** does not have to be a certified pest applicator; and that home inspectors continue to be licensed and that they be tested to demonstrate that they know and can identify pests, which could be present in structures. **Le07.02**
- The Oregon State Grange supports legislation that would place **manufactured home courts** under the same landlord/tenant laws as apartment complexes with respect to rental increases. **Le08.02**
- We resolve to join forces with other agencies in getting legislation enacted that would protect renters in **mobile home parks**, and to support a state panel set up to mediate violations of these rental controls. **Le07.90**
- The Oregon State Grange supports revisions to the **PERS system** that will maintain the systems viability into the future; and we recommend the Oregon State Legislature revise the Oregon Public Employee Retirement System by adopting a simplified 401K-style defined contribution plan for new employees that would attract new and current employees, eliminate future debt liability, and help pay down the current unfunded liability. **Le09.02**
- The Oregon State Grange proposes changes in the definition of an **'Independent Contractor'**. **Le04.02**
- The Oregon State Grange opposes the creation of a **Construction Contractor Risk Management Council**. **Le07.05**
- The Oregon State Grange supports changes in statute or rule to allow an individual to accept a **stipend** from a non-profit organization in lieu of standard wages. **Le05.05**
- The Oregon State Grange proposes the enactment of a **Civic Literacy Test**. **Le10.02**
- The Grange supports legislation to regulate **payday loan interest rates**. **Le7.06**

The Oregon State Grange supports restoring to an adequate level the **General Assistance (GA)** payments for adults conditionally approved to receive Supplemental Security Income and Social Security Disability. **Le16.09**

We support the increasing of the state **Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)** from 6% to 12% of the federal Earned Income Tax Credit. **Le19.09**

We support legislation to require neighborhood and community notification before a **Secure Residential Treatment Facility (SRTF)** is sited and that the District Attorneys require the Psychiatric Security Review Board (PSRB) to give them 30-day notification before a conditional release hearing is held and that the local DA be notified of placement in addition to the DA in the county where the trial was held. **Le21.09**

The Oregon State Grange supports legislation requiring **Mt. Hood climbers** to obtain a GPS locator device and file a plan before starting a climb, and if they do not, they will face a fine/penalty and the costs involved to locate and rescue them. **Le01.10**

The Oregon State Grange supports legislation that lessens the unfair **regulatory burden on small rural businesses**. **Le05.10**

Political Candidates, Ballot Measures, and Elections

The Oregon State Grange believes that creating the position of Lt. Governor is not necessary. **Le08.05**

The State Grange favors changing the date of the **primary election** in Oregon to occur between September the first and September the tenth of each election year. This would decrease the time between the primary and the general election, lessening the amount of campaign funds needed for those seeking office.

The Oregon State Grange supports holding the Oregon State **Presidential Primary** Elections on the second Tuesday of March. **Le07.00**

We feel the state should make it mandatory there be no more than **two elections per year** and that all special elections be combined on the specified days. **Le15.93**

We further believe that strict regulations on contributions to, and expenditures of, candidates are needed. There should be a limit of a \$1,000 contribution made by any one person or organization, to any one candidate. No candidate from Oregon running for any city, county, regional, state, or federal office should collect or spend more than 50 cents per person in their district or the area they represent. No more than \$250,000 should be collected or spent on a campaign by any candidate. Also all unspent monies remaining should be turned over to the State Department of Education following an election. **40, 54.75, Le05.92**

We believe legislation should be adopted whereby no political candidate shall receive **monetary assistance** from outside their respective voter districts. **Le09.94**

The Oregon State Grange policy on **campaign financing** includes the following:

1. We oppose public financing of all political campaigns.
2. We support requiring that all candidates for state and federal office PAC contribution records be posted on the Internet no less than once a month to give the public access to the information of who is contributing to that candidate from February 1 through November 15 of each election year.
3. We support that all State Measure PAC contribution records be posted on the Internet no less than once a month to give the public access to the information of who is contributing to that PAC from February 1 through November 15 of each election year.

4. We support limiting the amount that an individual or corporation may donate to a candidate PAC to \$1,000.00 per election (includes both primary and general). **Le05.00**

The Oregon State Grange believes that all **ballot measures** should state their true meaning in clear, concise language. Also these measures should be written in a manner that voters can vote yes to implement a measure and no to reject it.

In the event the Legislature places a similar measure on a given ballot as is also being placed on the ballot by **initiative petition**, the people's initiative would carry priority (that it will become law as long as the majority yes votes prevail on that initiative).

We ask that all **legal signatures** collected for these petitions be allowed if the **petition** is changed by the Secretary of State, or the courts, after the petition is approved for circulation.

The Grange will continue to work to retain and protect the **initiative petition process**.

We will lobby and work for an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Oregon specifying that for an **initiative petition** to pass in the State of Oregon it must be approved by a **majority vote** in each of 2/3 of the counties of Oregon. **Le07.95**

The State Grange asks that a law allowing payment for the **circulation of petitions** be repealed. We feel paid petitioners are a violation of the circulation of free petitions. The right of the initiative process should be retained without placing undue prohibitive restrictions, and undue financial hardship, on any individual or organization who might want to place a measure on the ballot.

3.77, 26.79, 30.84, 67.85, 27.88, Le07.89, Le03.92, Le04.97

The State Grange is in opposition to any type of discontinuance of the **Voter's Pamphlet**, and we urge Oregon to continue its present distribution. We also believe that the Secretary of State should see that the views and opinions of the statements printed are valid, and that any inaccuracies published should be subject to the laws of perjury and libel. **65.79, 11.81**

The Oregon State Grange supports requiring the pamphlet be mailed at least **30 days prior** to an election. **Le01.01**

The Oregon State Grange also goes on record in support of any law that would require that citizens must **register twenty days** prior to an election to be eligible to vote.

The Grange is in opposition to **vote by mail**, since these votes could be easily controlled by others, and verification of ballots made by mail is subject to doubt.

The Grange supports making the State of Oregon an **open primary state**. **Le01.96**

There have been times in the past where state officials have overridden the people's vote, and the Grange believes that the **wishes of the people** should not be ignored. The State Grange further notes that if changes need to be made in current laws, as suggested by voter action, that these changes be made by elected officials and then referred back to the people for a vote. The intent of any law passed by the people should also be carried out until a change is again made by vote. **29.82**

The Oregon State Grange favors changing the **Electoral College** process to allow each US Congressional District to cast its electoral vote for the presidential candidate that wins the majority vote of said district and that the two electoral votes per the US Senate be cast per the majority popular vote of the State. **Le06.01**

The Oregon State Grange support legislation to require the redistricting of the Oregon State House and Senate districts completed by **non-partisan commission** of nine citizens of Oregon. **Le05.04**

The Grange supports the “**No**” vote space on the ballot for **judicial nominees** running unopposed.

Le09.06

We endorse legislation that will require any **citizen wishing to register to vote** in Oregon to appear in person before a county elections office or local DMV Office and provide proof that they are a U.S. citizen, a resident of Oregon, and at least 17 years-of-age.

Le05.09

Legislative Session and Passage of Bills

The Oregon State Grange goes on record requesting that Oregon’s **legislative committees** change their procedures to consolidate bills dealing with the same subjects. This will save money and time that is currently taken up by duplications. We also support a rule that would put a time limit of 30 days for individual legislators to introduce bills in the Oregon Legislature. Any bills sponsored by Senators or Representatives after the first 30 days of the Legislative Session would then have to be approved by a two-thirds vote of a regular session committee, and carry the chief sponsors name. To further save time, the Grange requests that if the chairman of a legislative committee knows there will be many testifying, a time limit will be set at the very beginning of the hearing. Everyone who is to testify will have equal time, including any Legislators.

4.75, 50, 51.77

The Oregon State **Legislature** spends considerable time selecting their **leaders**. The Oregon State Grange believes that the five days now allowed for this selection is excessive, and should be changed to one day. We propose that after one day all pay should stop until these bodies have begun actual work on the jobs they were elected to perform.

11.79, 33.83

The Grange supports legislation to **require the Legislature to start on April 1st**; and further that all compensation to legislators stops at the end of 150 days, except for compensation for committee business, legislative task force and other authorized expenses.

Le03.06

Regional and County Government, Appointed and Elected Officials (LCDC)

We are opposed to LCDC’s **Goal 5**, or any similar act, which virtually halts all economic use of property by setting it aside for wildlife habitat, scenic views, wetlands and other public uses without compensation to the owner. Further, if state land planning arbitrarily changes the use and value of any land, appropriate compensation for the loss of value should be given.

The Oregon State Grange believes that **goals and guidelines** set by LCDC should be established as recommendations only to county governments, and the governing body of each county should have the final authority to implement these goals and guidelines in the manner which they consider in the best interests of people in that county.

91.81, 121.82, Leg12, Le03.89, Le08.90

The residents of Oregon’s **unincorporated communities** be allowed to exercise local control of land use decisions that determine the livability of their communities; and that the authority of regional governments to control land uses shall be rescinded.

Le05.02

The Oregon State Grange supports changing the law to have the Land Conservation and Development Commission Board be **appointed from districts** that are the same as the districts for the Oregon Department of Transportation (5 districts, 2 laying east of the Cascade Mountains) with the other two board members appointed at large.

We further support having the elected officials in each district **nominate** three citizens from that district to the Board, one of which the Governor shall appoint.

Le06.98

We will work with State Legislators, the LCDC and all other pertinent agencies to require that any public institution that condemns property for public use must pay the difference in **fair market value** if 3/5 of the general area or like property in the general area is rezoned, thereby creating a higher value within 6 years of the condemnation. If this is not the case but property touching the condemned property on

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one side is valued higher, the condemned property shall not be worth less than 50% of the worth of the touching property. **Le02.95**

We ask the Oregon State Legislature and the Governor to **limit the duties and actions** of LCDC to those authorized in SB100 and reduce their budget accordingly. **Le06.95**

The Oregon State Grange support the repeal and/or overhaul of **Oregon's Land Use Planning** process. **Le10.04**

We are against the abrogation of **private property rights** and will use any means necessary to return and defend private property rights. **Le05.95**

The Grange supports **protecting the private property rights** from eminent domain. **Le08.06**

The Grange stands opposed to any revision to our Constitution which further encroaches upon the rights and privileges of individual citizens, or further centralizes the power of government. The State Grange is opposed to the establishment of **regional government**, and we request that our freedom and right to own property, which might be jeopardized by a regional government be retained. We are therefore opposed to the continuation of the Metropolitan Service District. **71.76, 65.80, 52.81**

The Grange will work to see that the **Metro** Regional Government does not usurp the authority of the county or city government within the district in order to protect the population and natural environment of the region. **EE04.96**

The Grange opposes county initiatives that propose to **remove land from outside the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB)** for increasing their land inventory. **Ag08.06**

The Oregon State Grange favors legislation that would limit the duties of the **Labor Commissioner** to labor relations. Any problems where the law has been broken, which involves criminal charges arising from labor actions, should be turned over to the judicial system where they rightfully belong. **60.75**

The Oregon State Grange is opposed to Section 735.21 of the National Register of the Code of Conduct, and we believe it should be repealed. This section states that an employee of the US Department of Agriculture shall not actively participate in farm organizations. Many farm organizations, such as the Grange, have long been strong forces in agriculture, as well as providing leadership in community affairs. Denying the right of employees to belong to organizations such as ours is banning them from taking an active part in their communities. **30.77**

We oppose the **Home Rule** Charter and County Manager form of government. The Grange supports instead a full time elected County Commission, which would manage the county's affairs. **59.82**

We believe that Circuit **Court** and Probate **Records** of any county should remain in that county, and not be stored elsewhere. **54.85**

We propose to lobby for legislation to require that a claim filed in a **small claims** court be tried in a small claims court unless the party filing the claim agrees to a transfer of said case to a District Court. **Le18.93**

The Oregon State Grange supports legislation to require that all government agencies, particularly the heads of departments be required to show **accountability** for decisions made during their tenure. **FA01.97**

Legislation needs to be adopted whereby individuals, environmental groups or government agencies supplying inaccurate statistics be held monetarily **responsible for damages**. **Le07.94**

The Oregon State Grange favors and urges support for the projected \$30 million dollars of improvements to the **State Fair Grounds** in Salem, for which State Lottery Funds should be spent. **Le10.98**

The Oregon State Grange supports legislation requiring the State, Metros, Counties, Cities and other governing agencies to provide each individual land owner, affected by a proposed change in land use, **written notification** that their property is within the boundaries of a proposed land use change that may affect that property's future value. **Le13.98**

Administrative Rules

The Oregon State Grange supports creation of guidelines and parameters to require all **administrative rules** written by these governing groups be reviewed by the Oregon Legislature before they become effective, thereby giving the citizens of Oregon an opportunity to make the government more accountable to the citizens of Oregon, and reducing the dominance of special interest groups in the administrative rules process and reduce Oregon's reliance on government by the unelected. **Le01.98**

Unpopular Legislative Laws and Proposals

The State Grange requests that voters be allowed to vote on any future budget increases which if implemented would change the **state spending limit**. **Le03.90**

The State of Oregon has implemented a state-wide **building code** which requires permits, inspections, and conformities that often impose a great hardship on landowners of all ages. These permits require what, where, and how a person may build. The State Grange supports the elimination of these strict rules and regulations that have been imposed on the construction of single family homes and farm buildings. We believe that no building permits should be required for small outbuildings and fencing. Only one building permit should be required to build a home, and a reasonable amount should be charged to attain it. **76.75, 16.78**

We believe that when boundary lines of **property** are **surveyed**, adjoining property owner(s) must be notified by registered mail within two weeks following the survey, if there are changes. **Le02.92**

The Oregon State Grange will support legislation to permit non-profit organizations with a annual budget under \$30,000.00 to be issued building permits as homeowners rather than corporations, to allow members/volunteers to make repairs, subject to passing the required state and local inspections. **Le11.97**

The Oregon State Grange goes on record in opposition to **any mandated services**, unless financing is provided by the state for the same. **48.80**

The Oregon State Grange would support legislation that would do away with the **nuisance laws** pertaining to farmers and ranchers. County land planning and zoning should have equal representation of farmer and ranchers, along with representatives from other walks of life. **90.81**

We reaffirm our policy on the **separation of state**, religion and the public school system. **30.83**

We are in favor of package or **modular homes**. However we believe that any such homes erected in the United States, should also be manufactured in the USA. **29.84**

The Oregon State Grange urgently requests all our State Legislators to initiate adequate legislation to fully protect the **equities of buyers** of property under contract. We also ask that legislation be enacted that will prevent acts of buyers from reflecting upon the equities of the seller of contract property. **41.87**

The Oregon State Grange opposes any move to **ban religious programs** from airing on radio or television. **55.82**

The State Grange opposes and shall work to prevent any privatization of the **Oregon State Fair** and Exposition Center. **Le12.92**

We support legislation to amend the **Oregon Public Meeting Law** to require all public agencies in the State of Oregon have open citizen comment periods during public meetings. **Le01.93**

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The Oregon State Grange opposes any further attrition of the **Oregon Public Records Law**. **Le07.99**

The Oregon State Grange supports prohibiting **public access** on private property without the owner's consent and actively oppose any legislation to the contrary. **Le12.99**

The Grange supports the issuance of a **driver license** with valid proof of Social Security number. **Le6.06**

Define Marriage

The Oregon State Grange supports legislation that **defines marriage** as between a man and a woman. **FA02.04**

The Oregon State Grange opposes legislation to establish a reciprocal beneficiary relationship and/or a **civil union** for two adults who are legally prohibited from marrying. **Le06.05**

Natural Resources

Timber Resources and Logging Practices

The Oregon State Grange takes the position that continued **export of logs** from our state is not in the best interests of Oregonians. Such export activities should be stopped at the earliest possible date. We support legislation that would ban the exportation of raw logs, and ask that any timber company disregarding this ban be prohibited from bidding on, or purchasing, any state or federal timber.

81.78, NR03.89

We support a **multiple use management** for National Forests that will maintain the current annual allowable harvests. We also support the enhancement of recreational opportunities. These would include the creation of more trails, building newly developed campgrounds and promoting the use of the existing recreational capacity of our National Forests.

The Oregon State Grange urges Congress to allow **forest management planning** which gives expanded multiple use to lands, recognizing multiple use includes, but is not limited to, recreation, watershed protection, timber harvests, grazing and wildlife uses. We support the Yellow Ribbon Coalition, The Oregon Project, and any other organizations that support multiple use under the umbrella of the Oregon Land Coalition.

6.78, 85.80, 11.83, 112-88, NR04.90

The Grange believes that all publicly owned forests should be strictly managed to protect and enhance all the **interrelated values** of the forest. Methods should be developed and practiced to allow timber logging, while taking into consideration the preservation and rejuvenation of the forest.

We support the **wise use** of all **natural resources**; that will require planning for sustained yields by the rotation of crops, encouraging the full and complete utilization of all blown down, fire damaged, and insect killed stands of timber, as well as logging debris from these harvesting activities. **NR15.89, NR07.92**

The Oregon State Grange affirms its position that **grazing allotments** and timber sales should be considered in the interests of agriculture. The US Forest Service and the BLM should maximize the use of grazing and timber resources on public lands. These resources should be protected from overuse, and when considering conflicting uses, these agencies should allow the use that will best support the local, state and federal economy.

41.76, 18.88, NR 02.04

We also believe that no federal or state land that is considered forestry land should be included in any **land swaps or sales** if under protective legislation.

The Oregon State Grange urges Congress to oppose the **sale of public assets**. Every effort should be made to retain, protect and develop all of the public domain in the best long-term interests of the people of the United States.

30.86, 66.87, NR01, NR17.89, NR05.90

We believe that the US Forest Service should not buy or acquire **private land** and take it off the tax roll.

FA03.94

We encourage timely and expeditious **salvage** of insect diseased and wildfire killed or damaged timber to prevent further deterioration of timber value and reduce wildfire hazard. We also encourage the use of all silvicultural practices in timber management to harvest, thin, reforest and otherwise manage forest lands, encourage timber management activities be conducted so as to protect basic soil and water resources and to insure reforestation of commercial timber species to meet or exceed the Oregon State Forest Practices requirement.

NR04.95, NR02.05

We support Federal Legislation that would accelerate the salvage harvest of dead and dying timber to provide economic stability to all Counties in the State of Oregon while that timber still has a commercial economic value.

FA03.93, NR 01.03

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The Oregon State Grange favors the following **timber harvesting** practices:

1. That logging of all available burned or bug killed trees in fire damaged areas be done;
2. Construction of any new roads into timber stands be held to a minimum, and;
3. New seeding of grass and trees be accomplished as soon as possible.

The Oregon State Grange support the repeal of **diameter limitation rules** when harvesting timber.

Ag05.03

The Oregon State Grange supports policy that would make timber identified as **dead and/or dying** available for sale within ninety (90) days of identification.

Ag03.04

The Oregon State Grange supportd legislation to require any person or group appealing a Forest Service, BLM or Oregon State Forestry timber sale post a **bond equal to 50% of the value** of the timber sale.

Ag.04.04, Ag05.04

The Oregon State Grange support legislation to open the **Tillamook State Forest** to timber harvest.

Ag07.05

The Oregon State Grange support legislation that would curtail any additional **wilderness designation** in the Mt. Hood National Forest.

Ag10.04

Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

We support the Oregon State **Board of Forestry** acting as the policy making and supervisory organ of the State Forestry Department.

74.81

We believe the Oregon State Board of Forestry should move their boundaries back to the December 1993 boundaries. We feel that the 1991 Forest Practices Act should be removed entirely.

NR04.94

We encourage the Forest Service and BLM to return to the original intent of the **Taylor Grazing Act**.

NR09.89

We encourage the repeal of the **Wild Horse and Burro Law**. The Grange believes that BLM should be allowed to sell horses that have been gathered each year, when homes can't be found.

77.78

The Oregon State Grange goes on record asking that steps be taken to **conserve Myrtle trees**, and that these steps be instituted by the Forest Service, BLM, road building and right of way agencies, and logging companies. Also that public awareness for the need to conserve this natural resource be brought into focus.

11.75

We will actively petition the Oregon State Legislature and Governor to support and pass legislation assuring the right of County Government to exercise **management control of public lands** within county boundaries should the counties choose to manage these lands themselves. We propose to introduce a ballot initiative to this effect to be voted on by the people if the Legislature and Governor fail to take prompt action.

Le09.95

We believe the State of Oregon should attempt to **regain control** of all Federal lands within its boundaries claimed by the US Government not covered by the Constitution of the United States.

FA04.94

We will actively and vigorously petition the Oregon State Legislature, Governor and Oregon Congressional Delegation to support the '**sagebrush rebellion**', regain control of the state's destiny, gain ownership of all federally managed public lands within its boundaries not authorized for federal control in the US Constitution and to initiate appropriate legislation to revert control of these public lands to the state. We will support a ballot initiative to this effect to be voted on by the people.

Le10.95

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We will endorse **research** to provide Forest Managers, woodland owners, other forestry professionals, and the public with an understanding of better forest management. **NR05.95**

The Oregon State Grange opposes the **mineral withdrawals** from the Siskiyou National Forest and surrounding Bureau of Land Management Lands. **NR03.01**

We support establishing a maximum two-year administrative deadline during which the Dept. of Agriculture, Forest Service is to formulate a recovery plan and hear all appeals concerning this recovery plan for portions of the National Forests which are damaged by fire. **Ag01.09**

Wilderness, Recreation, and Wild and Scenic River Areas

The Grange asks for the removal of all **private property** from National Recreation Areas and Wild and Scenic River Areas. We are opposed to the designation of any additional acreage to these areas, as well as to Federal Wilderness Areas.

We oppose the **McKenzie River Quality and Recreation Initiative Ordinance**, and any similar ordinances that might be applied to other rivers in the State of Oregon because it usurps private property rights. **NR02.92**

We are also opposed to the addition of rivers and small streams to the **Scenic Waterways Act**. We believe that economic development should be a prime consideration in making any additions to said Act.

The Oregon State Grange opposes the selection of the Willamette River as an American **Heritage River**. We further support working with other concerned groups that are attempting to prevent the Willamette River from becoming an American Heritage River. **NR02.98**

The Grange supports legislation that would permit the **construction of roads** into Wilderness Areas, as well as other roadless areas of Oregon. These roads would permit the harvest of damaged timber, provide for future fire suppression, aid in search and rescue operations and be used for emergency evacuation purposes. **75, 77.88**

We oppose bills which would set up trust funds for federal, state, and local governments to **purchase private property** for recreational facilities or to conduct land use planning. **NR13.89**

The State Grange strongly supports **separate funding** for the expenditure on solid waste disposal and recycling programs and for the purchase of private lands for exclusive use of wildlife under the Oregon Resource Conservation Trust Fund, and ask that widespread hearings be conducted to obtain public input on these expenditures. **NR01.92**

Oregon Parks and National Parks

We favor and urge, legislative action which will allow persons camping in any state park in Oregon, to use the **day-use** facilities of the park without additional charge. **14.84**

The Oregon State Grange supports granting permanent Oregon residents an annual pass which would allow the bearer unlimited access to **day use fee areas**. We further support devising additional sources of funding for our State parks and recreation areas. **NR01.98**

We oppose the study by the Department of Interior and designation of the **Hells Canyon/Chief Joseph National Park and Preserve**. **NR08.92**

The Oregon State Grange opposes making **Steens Mountain** into a National Monument. **NR02.00**

Use of our Water Resources

The Oregon State Grange requests the governor and the Water Resources Board, to make every effort to require companies to share with the state **geological knowledge** resulting from their explorations. This would aid the Water Resources Board in their efforts to study the underground water resources of our state.

The Oregon State Grange is in opposition to the role of the Water Resources Commission to establish and enforce the **allotments of waters** in the streams of Oregon.

The Grange formally opposes any and all filing for water rights by the State of Oregon as unfair and unwarranted competition with the private sector. Also, any permitted filing by the state be performed under the same historic priority rules which have traditionally and do now govern water right filings by non-governmental entities. Further, any and all water rights issued to the State of Oregon have a prerequisite, objective, economic and social impact analysis of the proposed water use, and that public hearings be held in the geographic area where the water being appropriated is located.

We also urge members of the Legislature to bring pressure to bear upon the State Water Master to sharply curtail the use of deep wells for irrigation, especially where there is no possibility of replacement supplies from river sources. We urgently request curtailment of further drilling permits for unlimited use of deep wells for irrigation, especially in areas of the state of Oregon where there is an indication of depleting the existing underground supply of fresh, clean water. **94.81, 40.87, 9.80, NR01, NR02.92**

The Oregon State Grange strongly opposes the Oregon Water Resource Departments' proposed \$1.00 per acre-foot, per year, fee structure. In the event water fees are authorized, all funds shall be forwarded to the State Treasury for proper appropriation by the State Legislature. **NR06.92**

The Grange would support legislation that forever nullifies the State Land Boards claims of navigability in our state. The sole purpose of navigability is used as a determination to enable the state to take possession of the riverbeds and banks to the high water mark. We see no public good that would accrue to the people of Oregon through state possession of these riverbeds and banks. **120.82**

The Oregon State Grange requests the Oregon State Legislature and the Oregon Department of State Lands **cease and desist from reclassifying any waters in Oregon as "navigable"**. **Tr03.08**

We believe that the **River Basin Planning** effort should be redirected toward coordinated resource planning, with local SWCD designated as co-leader for this effort, along with the Strategic Water Planning Committee. **4.85**

The Oregon State Grange urges the completion of the **Elk Creek Dam** and reservoir which would act as an integral part of the Rogue Basin Project. This project was authorized by the Congress of the United States, under the Flood Control Act, to provide comprehensive multiple-use benefits to the basin. **34.80, NR05.91**

We favor continuing the current method of **snow surveys**. These methods do not include electronic monitoring devices. We believe that these electronic devices have not been proven successful, and the present method is very cost effective. **39.80**

We strongly support the '**prior appropriation**' doctrine as the basis for water law in Oregon. **NR02.93**

The Oregon State Grange supports laws the keep **water rights** as a part of the land. **Ag08.04**

We believe that **below-surface ground water** belongs to the people who own the land. **Ag 03.07**

We strongly support the continued operation of the **Savage Rapids Dam** and irrigation system with the existing updated fish ladders. **NR05.93**

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The Oregon State Grange opposes the removal of the Rogue River **Savage Rapids Dam**; and shall actively work for the preservation of the Savage Rapids Dam, & adding more fish screens & ladders.

NR02.01, reaffirmed NR04.06

We oppose leasing, renting, or selling of adjudicated **water rights** and will work with Oregon State Legislators to repeal any water law that permits leasing, renting, or selling of adjudicated water rights.

NR06.95

The Grange supports the **Milltown Hill Dam** as a shovel-ready project for securing necessary funding to construct the dam.

NR01.07

The Oregon State Grange opposes passage of the "**Clean Water Restoration Act of 2007**".

FA02.08

Watersheds

The Oregon State Grange strongly supports **Bull Run Trespass Act**.

We reaffirm the present State Grange policy of declaring the Bull Run and Little Sandy Watersheds a **National Resource Area** and we must continue writing our city, county, state and federal agencies, stressing the need to protect our natural water resources.

2.87, 32.88, NR03.92

The State Grange will work for the **access roads** into the Gordon Creek watershed, area of Larch Mountain, Columbia Gorge District, Mt. Hood National Forest, to have gates installed and locked. This will discourage public entry and dumping in the watershed of the Corbett Water District.

NR04.92

The Grange opposes **clear cutting** of timber in the Willow Creek Watershed. We feel that the trees in this area are vital to future of this watershed, and that clear cutting would eliminate tree stands for the next 30 to 60 years.

25.80

The Columbia Gorge, Columbia River, and Their Resources

The Oregon State Grange opposes the movement by our Federal Congressmen and government to place the Columbia Gorge under their control. We go on record in opposition to any plan which would give the federal government control over the development of the **Columbia River Gorge**.

The Grange urges full cooperation between Oregon and Washington State to work out a program that would best protect the present state of the **Gorge** for future generations.

103-82, 28-86, 77.81

We are opposed to any attempts to **divert the waters** of the Columbia River, as well as the Snake River, to states not along their banks.

38.80, 83.81

The Grange strongly supports any **lock project** proposed at the **Bonneville Dam** which would enlarge or update the locks. This would ensure that there would no longer be a bottleneck in the transportation of produce from the Pacific Northeast to Pacific ports. We further feel that the Bonneville Locks are one of the most important issues facing the wheat industry, and we resolve to continue encouraging the appropriation of funds, through Congress, to complete the construction of the locks as soon as possible.

25.81, 44.88

We will work with legislators to help convince the Oregon Department of Transportation and the ICC, to assure the lowest possible cost of transportation for agriculture commodities. Our concern is activated by the **drawdown of water** tables of the Snake and Columbia Rivers.

Tr04.92

The Oregon State Grange supports initiating **salmon recovery projects** such as those in the Umatilla River in Oregon, the Clearwater River in Idaho and the Hanford Reach in Washington.

We support continuation of **barging of fish** around the dams.

We further support giving consideration to the **economic impact** of this action on industry and agriculture. **NR03.99**

The Oregon State Grange opposes the **breaching of** the lower Snake River **dams** and all dams on the Columbia River. **FA05.99**

The Oregon State Grange supports legislation that will give the Native American Tribes on the Columbia River the opportunity to operate some of the **hatcheries** on the Columbia River. **NR03.00**

Ocean and Stream Fish Resources

The Oregon State Grange opposes the ratification of "**The Law of the Sea Treaty**". **FA04.05**

The Oregon State Grange believes a higher priority should be placed on the rehabilitation and maintenance of the Coho resources, since the **Coho Salmon** fishing industry is a part of the basic economy in Oregon. We further support efforts to reduce the numbers of seals and sea lions which are now threatening our salmon and steelhead runs. **19.85, NR14.89**

We resolve to work with Congress and the President of the United States, to stop the use of **drift nets** in our country's waters, as well as international waters. Also the penalties for illegal harvesting of sea life should be made more severe. **NR07.90**

The Oregon State Grange strongly requests the legislature to continue funding for the Rock Creek Fish **Hatchery** as a part of the biennial budget for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. **NR01.01**

The Grange opposes reducing general fund for **fish propagation** and increasing hunting and fishing license fees. **NR05.03**

The Oregon State Grange encourages the State of Oregon to establish a policy to allow licensed anglers to **dip net** the **excess salmon** near the hatcheries, similar to the policy for the excessive return of salmon in Alaska. We oppose clubbing excess hatchery salmon. **NR05.00**

Game, Game Management, and Hunting

The Oregon State Grange is opposed to a ban on snare and **leg hold traps** in Oregon. We are in favor of trapping to protect livestock and our livelihoods. **1.80**

The Grange asks that the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission initiate a management practice that will insure that the species of bear, indigenous to the northeast portion of our state, will survive. We do not believe that dogs for **hunting of bear** should be used in this area, and ask that it be banned, except in a case of emergency. **39.85**

The Oregon State Grange supports efforts to return to the use of dogs and bait for **hunting cougars and bears** under the direction of the Department of Fish & Wildlife. **Ag04.96**

The Oregon State Grange urges that regulation of the **cougar and bear** populations within the State of Oregon be turned over to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife which has the expertise and knowledge needed to successfully control these populations in order to promote the safety of human life and livestock herds as well as to preserve the establishment of game animals within the state. **EE05.98**

The Oregon State Grange shall actively work to change the law to allow hunters to use dogs to control **cougar, bear, fox and coyote populations** under direction of the Oregon State Department of Fish and Wildlife. **EE02.02, Le05.03**

We believe that there should be no regular type of **hunting season** allowed in eastern Oregon during the rut season. **41.85**

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The Oregon State Grange shall support legislation requiring a surcharge of \$10.00 or 10% whichever is greater, be added to all fines or assessments resulting from a conviction of **poaching**. Such surcharge to be dedicated to the funding of advanced Hunter Education. **EE03.92**

The Oregon State Grange supports revision of applicable Oregon State Statutes to allow for humane **dispatch of wildlife** injured by vehicles within the State of Oregon. We further support authorizing the operator and other occupants of said vehicles to salvage all usable parts of said wildlife, provided that notification to law enforcement authorities of such action be given within a period of 12 hours after dispatch of said animal. **EE01.98**

The Oregon State Grange opposes any effort to list the **coyote** as a protected game animal; and will vigorously oppose legislation to list the coyote as a protected game animal. We will work with and cooperate with other groups to fight any and all attempts to list the coyote as a protected game animal. **EE03.98**

The Oregon State Grange is opposed to introduction and migration of **wolves and wolf hybrids** in Oregon. **NR 04.00, NR 04.03**

The Oregon State Grange firmly believes that ranchers should be allowed to kill a gray wolf that is killing or threatening to kill any livestock or pet and supports any legislation that would allow such. **Le09.09**

The Oregon State Grange supports efforts to mitigate and eliminate livestock loss as well as elk and deer population reductions due to **wolves in Oregon**. **Ag05.10**

Preservation of Oregon Beaches

The Grange declares its conviction that the **public beaches** of Oregon are, and must remain, the property of the people. **36.88**

The Oregon State Grange shall work for the adoption of a '**Wreck Removal Act**' as recommended in the New Carissa Review Committee Report, which would create vessel owner liability for removal of abandoned and wrecked ships from Oregon beaches. **Le08.00**

Energy Resources

The Grange supports increased efforts by the National Grange to encourage U.S. Agriculture to help solve our depleting energy resources. **NR01.06**

The Grange opposes the ratification of the United Nations Kyoto Protocol Treaty, regarding energy omissions. **NR03.06**

Fossil Fuels

The Oregon State Grange supports the passage of laws mandating the development of known petroleum resources and the exploration for new resources in the territories of the United States with the goal of **oil independence**. **FA03.08**

The Oregon State Grange support rules for the siting of **Liquefied Natural Gas Port Terminals** that will insure citizen input regulating route selection, depth of pipeline and pipeline easements which will allow maximum use of the land above the pipeline. **Ut01.08**

Transportation

Mass Transit

The Oregon State Grange opposes any legislative actions that would use or raise our highway taxes to support a **mass transit system**.

We also believe that **Tri-Met buses** should use existing arterials and freeways, without requiring separate and exclusive bus lanes to be built. **59.75, 44.77**

The Grange supports **Amtrak** service through the Columbia Gorge and on to Salt Lake City. We also oppose any proposed cutbacks of any of the Amtrak services to the Northwest. **44.79, Tr02.97**

We go on record opposing a merging of the railroad and barge **transportation systems**. **23.85**

We go on record as opposing tactics used by federally funded means of transportation forcing **children** to ride in areas where they may be subjected to profane language and other unhealthy conditions. **Tr01.93**

Motor Fuels and Taxes

The State Grange goes on record encouraging the Legislature to legalize **card-controlled gasoline stations**. In some rural areas a card-controlled station is the only service available.

We are opposed to the legalization of **self serve gas stations**, with the exception of commercial card lock stations. Self service gas stations have shown no evidence that they offer lower fuel prices, and hundreds of jobs, would be lost directly impacting on Oregon's economy. **113.88, Le2.89**

The Grange recommends that the government relax its efforts to curb the use of **motor fuel by taxation**. We ask that they seek additional exploration of alternative sources of motor fuel, in a realistic manner, commensurate with the progress that our researchers have made in the past and at prices that the average farmer and working man can afford.

We support the idea to have the state of Oregon use its publicly-owned fleet of cars, pickups, and trucks to try **alternative fuels** which have shown evidence of being cost-effective while having little or no environmental risks.

The State Grange further recognizes that laws exist regarding the off-duty use of **public vehicles** by public employees. We believe that these laws are not fully enforced and the Grange favors stricter enforcement and the enactment of new laws, if found necessary. **80.80, 27.81, Tr05.90**

We go on record in opposition to a proposed 10%-15% federal **tax** increase on **motor fuel** to help reduce the federal budget. We are opposed to any increases in federal gasoline taxes. **Tr01&Tr03.89**

Grangers feel all **fuel tax** and vehicle monies, and interest from these monies, should be restricted solely for county roads, highway uses and state park use. **Tr02.89**

We are opposed to the enactment of any additional gasoline taxes until the **highway user tax** is increased by the same percentage points as the gas tax. **Tr04.89**

The Grange supports legislation requiring the **state gasoline tax** to go into a dedicated fund, to be used solely on state roads and highways. Other worthwhile projects would then need to be funded from other sources. We do not believe that this fund should be used for projects such as parks, bike trails etc.

We also go on record in favor of having tax monies collected by the United States government on gasoline be returned to the states for highway construction and repair before the gas tax is raised. **58.76, 92.88, Le01.97**

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We go on record encouraging the setting up of a procedure for maintaining a standard **quality of gasoline**. Tr02.94

The Oregon State Grange requests gasoline without **corrosive additives** be made available statewide and oppose any further additives unless they reduce emissions and have no adverse effect on the mileage or function of vehicles. Tr01.08

The Oregon State Grange opposes any legislation to impose **emission standards** of California in Oregon. NR03.05

The Oregon State Grange supports **construction of a petroleum refinery** at Coos Bay or at another suitable location with appropriate investment and tax incentives. Ut01.07

Vehicle Regulations and Fees

The State Grange supports the idea of having a lower tax rate on **ton mile** of an empty vehicle than what is being charged for a loaded vehicle.

We also support an increase which will allow a **combination of vehicles** without permit from 50 to 60 feet. 102, 106.83

The Oregon State Grange requests that the state discontinue the practice of allowing **triple trailers** to utilize the highways and roadways of our state. Tr03.92

The Oregon State Grange urges strict enforcement of current laws regarding the **overloading** of vehicles while hauling firewood. 51.88

We oppose legislation that would add an annual fee for the privilege of using **studded tires**. 22.85

The Grange supports a repeal of the **highway use tax**, the recent increase in the rubber tax and finally, the new excise tax on trucks and parts. All of these increase the cost of purchasing and using a truck. 76.83

The Oregon State Grange opposes any **road tax user fee** based on mileage. Ut01.05

We strongly encourage the Oregon Department of Motor Vehicles to enforce the law concerning **disabled parking permits**. Tr01.94

The Oregon State Grange favors legislation that will force all auto and truck manufacturers and re-manufacturers to keep all **vehicle headlights** within the original manufacturer's specifications; and that all add-ons and repair jobs follow the rule by law. Tr01.01

The Oregon State Grange supports legislation to change the law to state that **headlights** are required anytime a vehicle is in operation. Tr01.98

We ask that the Oregon State Motor Vehicle regulations be changed to reflect the requirement that **auxiliary driving lights** on vehicles operated on public roads be turned off when the vehicle's primary lights are on low beam. Tr02.95

The Oregon State Grange supports requiring all **fog lights** be set at the proper angle so as not to blind the drivers of approaching cars.

We further urge the Department of Motor Vehicles for a regulation stating that improperly adjusted illuminated **fog lights** be treated the same as failure to dim head lights Tr10.98

The Oregon State Grange should lobby the Legislature to mandate that ODOT remove the **55 miles per hour** signs to be replaced with reasonable truck speed signs which will be enforced. Tr05.99

2010 Legislative Policies of the Oregon State Grange

We are opposed to the **increased vehicle registration and title fees** enacted by Gov. Theodore Kulongoski in his Jobs and Transportation Act of 2009. **Tr03.09**

We encourage the Oregon Legislators to **remove the truck speed signs** making the speed limit the same for all vehicles on Interstate Freeways in Oregon. **Tr04.95**

We call for a stricter enforcement of **cyclists** staying in the bike lane where it is available to them. **Tr05.95**

The Grange urges the DMV to include more questions on **bicycle** operation and safety on the exam for motor vehicle driver's licenses. **Tr01.96**

The Oregon State Grange supports **registration and license fees** on all bicycles ridden by adults and the funds generated be used to build bike lanes on County and State roads. **Le07.03**

We support legislation that would **prohibit text messaging while driving in Oregon**. **Le02.09**

We believe that owners should be given the option of keeping their **original license plates** when purchasing a different automobile. **Tr01.10**

Road Hazards and Road Work

We ask that all **school zones** be clearly marked. **Tr03.95**

The State Grange supports any legislative efforts that would change signs in mountainous areas on upgrade **passing lanes**, to read 'all vehicles stay to the right except when passing'. **17.86**

We ask that the Oregon State Legislature enact a statute covering **debris on public roads**. This would allow the Oregon State Highway department, county road departments and city street departments the power to request these areas be cleaned up. Police agencies having jurisdiction should also be given arrest or citation powers after an offender has refused to cooperate with the agency controlling the particular public roadway. **109.88**

We urge the placement of permanent **fog markers** on all state and county roads in Oregon at the time any paving work is done. **Tr05.91**

Also that a portion of the \$3 billion available in federal funds be earmarked for the improvement and paving of all **rural roads** in Oregon in the near future. **Tr06.91**

We contend that **US Highway 97** should be upgraded to a divided 4-lane highway, with trees and shrubs removed a sufficient distance to allow sunlight to melt the ice and give clear view of roadside animals. **71.88**

We are not in favor of creating a **Scenic Corridor Byway** on Highway 101 from Astoria to Gold Beach. **Le03.95**

The Oregon State Grange supports the change in the proposed route of the I-82 extension to State **Highway 395** with improvements. **Tr03.99**

The State Grange supports the '**Adopt-A-Highway**' bill and urges incorporating it into community projects. **Tr05.92**

We believe that when **slow moving vehicle signs** are being used as driveway signs (state law states that they are only to be used on slow moving vehicles) that any state, county or local police entity may put a warning note on the sign that they be removed or the next time will result in a fine. **Tr01.09**

General Transportation Concerns on Roads and Rivers

The Oregon State Grange supports stricter enforcement of current laws regarding excessive **tire width** for cars and light trucks. **Tr02.98**

The Oregon State Grange rigorously opposes the conversion of any existing roads to **toll roads** in the Portland Metro Area. **Tr06.99**

The Oregon State Grange supports **toll roads**, if necessary, to overcome funding constraints in building the Coos Bay to Oakridge and the Junction 58/97 to Route 20 segments of the Coos Bay - Ontario Expressway.

We further urge the Department of Motor Vehicles for a regulation stating that improperly adjusted illuminated **fog lights** be treated the same as failure to dim head lights.

We also support inclusion of the Coos Bay-Ontario freight/tourism route in ODOT's current Corridor Strategies development process and including the western portion of the **Coos Bay-Oakridge segment** into the current BPA power line EIS study.

The Oregon State Grange urges getting Congressional support for **fast tracking** the federal environmental assessment and approval process and obtaining any available federal funding for construction. **Tr03.98**

The Oregon State Grange supports requiring the Oregon Department of Transportation to work with local communities to design traffic patterns and structures to balance **local access** without interfering with through traffic. **Tr07.98**

The Oregon State Grange shall encourage ODOT to consider improving a route through southern Oregon along existing highways including Highway 140 from Medford, Oregon to Winnemucca, Nevada and I-80, encourage ODOT to designate Highway 140 a federal east-west highway and obtain federal assistance in rebuilding this system from Medford, Oregon to Winnemucca, Nevada. **Tr04.99**

The Oregon State Grange seeks to require all **traffic signal lights** throughout the state to have a uniform setting requirement of at least five to six seconds on the yellow caution light. **Tr04.01**

We support enactment of legislation that would mandate that all motor vehicles beginning with the 2012 production year and thereafter be equipped with headlights that remain on when the vehicle is in operation. **Tr05.09**

The Oregon State Grange requests that the Oregon State Government and the United State Congress build a new **Merlin-Gold Beach highway** for the people of Oregon and its out-of-state visitors. **Tr02.10**

Railroads

The Oregon State Grange urges the legislature of the State of Oregon to withdraw all support of the **Rails to Trails Act**.

The Oregon State Grange support efforts by municipalities to operate abandoned rail lines for commerce. **Tr04.08**

Veterans

The Grange supports **funding for our war veterans** for appropriate rehabilitation assistance. **FA15.06**

The Grange believes that the U.S. Congress should adequately fund all **Veterans Hospitals** and Medical Centers. **HW02.89, HW01.90**

The Oregon State Grange requests that the Veterans Portland Medical Center provide a mobile medical unit equipped to handle the needs of our **female Veterans** to serve Veterans in rural Oregon. **HW02.10**

The Oregon State Grange inform its members of the "Governor's Task Force Study of the Transportation of Veterans of Rural Oregon" and support legislation that will **improve transportation of veterans in rural areas** of Oregon. **TR03.10**

