2006 OREGON INITIATIVES

HOPE fore Oregon Families – Initiative 40
- Requires access to health care as a fundamental right
- Requires the Legislature to adopt a plan expanding health care by 2009
- Constitutional Amendment stating healthcare is a right
- The measure does not lay out a plan or a funding option
- Chief Petitioners: Rep. Mitch Greenlick (D), Rep. Alan Bates (D), and Sen. Westlund (I)
- Opposition: Non Official yet
- www.hopeoregon.org

Credit Rating for Insurance - Initiative 23
- Prohibits insurance companies from using credit score or “credit worthiness” in calculating rates or premiums
- Chief Sponsor: Bill Sizemore
- Statutory change
- Opposition: None to the actual ballot measure but instead unions and tax advocates are concerned to see Bill Sizemore back on the scene with ballot measures.

Term Limits – Initiative 39
- Limits lawmakers to six years in the House of Representatives and eight years in the State Senate, no more than 14 years combined.
- Oregon had term limits through an initiative that passed in 1992 by 70%, but it was overturned in 2002 by the Oregon Supreme Court.
- Chief Petitioner: U.S. Term Limits, Americans for Tax Reform
- Opposition: None Official yet
- http://www.oregontermlimits.org/

Federal Substitution – Initiative 14
- Allows taxpayer to claim same deduction for each exemption (taxpayer, spouse, dependents) in state taxes as they do in federal taxes. Current deduction for state taxes for exemption is $131, while federal deduction is $3100.
- Estimated to cost state $835 million in lost tax revenue for 2007-09 (LFO)
- Statutory Change
- Chief Petitioner: Russ Walker, Freedom Works
- Opposition: Likely it will be Education unions, Social Service advocates

Apollo Initiative – Initiative 144, 145
- Creates Energy Excellence Board and Centers to Promote Clean and Renewable Energy Research and Production
- Requires that 8% of Oregon transportation fuel be from renewable energy by 2010, 14% by 2015, 20% by 2020, and 25% by 2025
- Some Funding specified
- Tax Credits for farmers that produce raw material for biofuel
- Chief Petitioners: Sen. Ben Westlund (I), John Kitzhaber
- Statutory Change
- Opposition: None Official, opposition expected from oil companies
- www.oregonapollo.org
Campaign Finance Reform – Imitative 8 and 37
- Initiative 37: Limits campaign contributions, and independent expenditures; requires new reporting. Goal is to stop the continued increase of influence by special interest groups (statutory).
- Initiative 8: Allows Law Adopted by Initiative or ¾ of Each Legislative House Regulating Campaign Contributions (constitution)
- Oregon is 1 of 5 states that has no limit on political campaign contributions
- Chief Petitioners: Harry Lonsdale, Dan Meek, Jim Robison
- Opposition: Likely environmental, choice groups and unions because they are wrong worried that it will limit their ability to give money to candidates that support them
- www.fairelections.net

Payday Loan Reform Act – Initiative 135
- Cap interest rates and origination fees for payday loans to 36% annual interest on the loan plus a one-time origination fee of 10% of the loan. Extends minimum payback to 31 days.
- Oregon is 1 or 7 states with no limits on payday loan interest rates
- Currently payday loan companies in Oregon charge up to 521% interest and fees
- Opposition: Likely Payday Loan Companies
- Statutory Change
- www.ouroregon.org

Parental Notification – Initiative 51
- Prohibits abortions to teens 15-17 unless doctor provides parent/guardian 48 hour notification and allows for doctors to be sued
- Minors under 15 must get parental consent already
- Exceptions for documented medical emergencies, no including rape or incest
- Allows for closed hearings for teens to petition notice
- Chief Petitioners: Felicia Bautista, Brenda Cochran, Oregon Right to Life
- Opposition: Pro-Choice Community
- Statutory Change

Taxpayers Bill of Rights – Initiative 6 (TABOR)
- Imposes spending cap on states spending, linking percentage of increase in state spending to inflation and population growth
- Proponents say that state funding is increasing too quickly, skyrocketing past population and inflation growth (www.taxpayerbillsofrights.com).
- Opponents say that while general inflation has gone up 27.3%$ from 1993-03, health care inflation has gone up 50.8% and education inflation has gone up 71.4% and that this measure does not allow the state to take such inflation costs into account (www.ouroregon.org)
- Legislative Fiscal Office has said that the 2005-07 state budget would have to $7.8 billion smaller if TABOR passed in 1990.
- Similar policy in Colorado passed in early 90’s was just suspended in 2005 November election
- Chief Petitioners: FreedomWorks, Russ Walker, all funding from Feb. reports from out of state
- Constitutional Change