

October 16, 2008

09-032

RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO INITIATIVE
MEASURE 62

PREPARED BY: Denise Frisbee, Chair, Portland Community College
Board of Directors

REPORT: The Portland Community College Board of Directors
opposes passage of Measure 62, which would allocate
15 percent of lottery proceeds to public safety funds.

Analysis:

1. This measure would amend the state Constitution to take away \$159 million in funds for schools. This, despite the fact that Oregon public K-12 schools and community colleges have been historically underfunded.
2. The Oregon Constitution should not be cluttered by policy bills such as this.
3. Other funding sources for education have become more limited, costs are on the rise, and unfunded mandates from the federal government continue to hinder schools.
4. The best way to improve Oregon's weak economy is by creating and maintaining a world-class public education system, at the K-12 level, in community colleges and in the Oregon University System. Any measure that takes money away from these already-embattled schools would weaken the state's economy in the long run.

Findings:

1. The state Constitution is an inappropriate vehicle for a law that specifies uses for lottery funds.
2. Taking money away from Oregon's K-12 public schools, community colleges and the Oregon University System will weaken the state's economy and Oregon's competitiveness with other states and the rest of the world.

RECOMMENDATION: The Portland Community College Board of Directors urges all students and community members to become fully informed regarding Measure 62, and to carefully consider the negative consequences for students throughout Oregon.

This resolution was prepared and distributed with non-public money.

Note: This resolution was brought to the Board of Directors by Director Frisbee at the Board meeting.

Note: This resolution was brought to the Board by Director Frisbee at the October 16, 2008 Board Meeting