From:	salem_update-bounces@lists.oregonstate.edu on behalf of Mills, Jock
To:	CAS DeanStaff; CAS Unit Leaders; Salem Update Listserv
Subject:	[Salem Update] Summary of bills under consideration for theFebruary 2008 Special Session
Date:	Wednesday, December 12, 2007 10:47:20 AM
Attachments:	Possible Senate Bills February 2008.doc Possible House Bills February 2008.doc ATT34187195.txt

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I have attached two tables prepared by legislative staff that briefly describe the legislative concepts proposed by each of the House and Senate Committees for consideration during the February Special Session:

<<Possible Senate Bills February 2008.doc>> <<Possible House Bills February 2008.doc>>
These tables do not include the 30 bills that are coming forth from individual members of the Senate. (We may not see those measures until a week or two before the Special Session begins.) The rules prevent members of the House from seeking individual bills.

On the attached tables, I have highlighted in yellow those measures that may be of interest to OSU and/or our constituents. Here are some of the highlights of the highlights:

Senate Committee Measures

Judiciary: Increase penalties for certain drug and property crimes; Increase funding for drug courts and supervisions of drug and property crime offenders; Increase funding for community corrections for specific purposes; and Increase penalties for repeat offenders of driving under the influence.

(While not applicable to OSU, this measure is intended as an alternative to a initiative expected on the November 2008 ballot that would require mandatory sentences for certain crimes. Because that measure is expected to significantly increase the prison population, it would have a profound impact on the distribution of general funds among all of the activities funded by the state, including higher education.)

Services to Seniors and People with Disabilities: Allocate $10 million to DHS to bolster acceptance of Medicaid recipients in community residential programs.

(While not applicable to OSU, this measure indicates that there may be some opportunities for disbursing additional funds during the special session.)

House Committee Measures

Agriculture and Natural Resources: Establish the Oregon Sustainable Agriculture Resource Center in the Department of Agriculture to provide information to Oregon farmers and ranchers on certification options.

(This concept – currently under revision - would provide funding and guidance

regarding OSARC, a concept that narrowly failed passage during the 2007 session. OSU has been actively involved in the work group that is developing this proposal.)

Education: Create a Farm-to-School and School Garden pilot program;
(This concept may involve efforts consistent with programs at OSU.)

Elections, Ethics and Rules: Possible technical amendments to Senate Bill 10 (2007).
(SB 10 is the far reaching revision to Oregon's ethics laws that is subject to a suit to prevent its implementation and is also subject to vexing questions about how it affects various state and local public officials.)

Emergency Preparedness/Ocean Policy: Relating to marine reserves, establish a site selection process that is legislatively and community driven; create a Science and Technical Advisory Committee within OPAC; and develop an outreach and education program.

(OSU has been involved in various ways in the consideration of marine reserves.)

Energy and the Environment: Require state agencies to prepare plans to enable the State to meet the greenhouse gas emission goals and report to the Global Warming Commission and the Legislative Assembly. Require the Governor and state agencies working on multistate and regional efforts to inform the Commission and Legislature

(OSU faculty have been active in the Commission and the legislation that was passed during the 2007 session.)

Redraft HB 2876-A relating to energy usage in state buildings.
(Changes in this bill could affect OSU.)

I do not have more specific language at this time regarding the bill concepts listed above, or on the table. I expect to work with committee chairs over the coming weeks to gather more information.

If you have questions or concerns about any of the bill concepts please do not hesitate contact me.

Jock

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