



Wayne Scott

State Representative, District 39

# Capitol Update



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*Legislative Newsletter*

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**Hello Friends,**

The 2007 session is about to end. While there have been some accomplishments, such as the new Rainy Day fund, I believe the 2007 session will be remembered for some missed opportunities.

As you'll read in this newsletter, I have led efforts to defend Measure 37, enact common sense immigration reforms, and provide 24/7 Oregon State Police coverage on our highways. Unfortunately, the Democrats who control the Legislature have blocked our efforts to build a stronger and better Oregon.

I have worked to protect Oregonians from huge tax increases proposed by some legislators. With \$2.8 billion in additional revenue for the 2007-09 budget, I have insisted that the state has enough money to pay for its top priorities.

There are several issues still pending this session, including a proposal to enact a statewide smoking ban on all places of employment. The proposal, SB 571, effectively expands the current ban to bars and taverns that are currently exempt.

There are some good reasons for expanding this ban, but there are also some reasons why it might not be such a good idea. For example, there is strong evidence showing that the ban will jeopardize Lottery Fund revenue that is directed to education, economic development and other purposes.

**I would appreciate your input on this issue.** Simply reply to this e-mail and let me know where you stand on expanding the statewide smoking ban.

**My primary focus is always to serve you and your family. Even after the session ends, my staff and I will continue to help constituents resolve disputes with state agencies and provide contact information for local and federal government officials. If I can ever be of assistance to you, please don't hesitate to [e-mail](#) or call my office at 503-986-1400.**

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Sincerely,



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### ***Rep. Scott Fights to Uphold Measure 37; Private Property Rights***

Throughout the 2007 session, Rep. Scott has fought to protect Measure 37 as it was passed by Oregon voters. On Wednesday, he led all House Republicans in voting to defend Oregonians' rights under the citizens' initiative.

On a party-line vote, Democrats passed HB 3540 to gut Measure 37, and refer the watered-down version to voters.

"Anti-property rights activists repealed a simple law giving property owners the right to seek compensation when government regulations reduced the value of their land," Rep. Scott said. "Rather than implementing a law approved by 61 percent of Oregon voters, they buried Measure 37 in bureaucracy and legal red tape."

HB 3540 severely restricts the number of homes a property owner can build, and makes it more difficult for owners to prove how government regulations reduced the value of their land. It imposes additional bureaucracy into the Measure 37 process, and exposes legitimate Measure 37 claimants to endless litigation.

You can expect a special election on HB 3540 in November 2007. Rep. Scott will actively support the campaign against the measure and is confident the voters will defend their private property rights for a third time at the ballot.

### ***Rep. Scott Pushes Common Sense Immigration Reform, Brings Legislative Package to House Floor***

Rep. Scott brought an immigration reform package to the House Floor on May 30. However, House Democrats rejected votes on HB 3553 and HB 3554 to fix Oregon's broken citizenship and residency laws.

"Oregonians demand immigration reform, and they expect their state government to take action," Rep. Scott said. "House Republicans have an effective agenda for action at the state level. Democrats rejected this agenda, preferring to pass non-binding resolutions that punt the problem to the federal government."

The House Republicans' common sense reform package includes measures to:

- Require proof of citizenship for voter registration.
- Require proof of legal presence for Oregon driver's licenses, permits and ID cards, and require ODOT to report those who attempt to obtain these documents through fraudulent means.
- Require the state to implement the federal Real ID Act, and require ODOT to protect the personal information of applicants for driver's licenses, permits and ID cards.
- Require proof of legal presence for state benefits, and allow state agency

employees to report those who can't provide valid proof of legal presence to federal immigration authorities.

- Directs ODOT to issue temporary drivers licenses to those who are legally present on a temporary basis.
- Prohibit state agencies and businesses under state contracts from hiring illegal immigrants.
- Establish tough sentencing laws for human trafficking activities.
- Allow law enforcement to investigate and detain violators of federal immigration laws.
- Allow Oregon district attorneys to transfer illegal immigrants convicted of additional crimes to federal immigration authorities.

Rep. Scott will continue to call for votes on these bills through the end of session.

### *Rep. Scott Supports OSP Budget, 100 New Troops; Still Demands 24/7 Coverage*

Rep. Scott voted for the Oregon State Police budget on May 29. While the budget adds 100 new Troopers, he led House Republicans in an effort to add \$4.2 million more to the budget to assure around-the-clock coverage on Oregon's highways.

The majority Democrats rejected the effort, instead calling for a tax increase to fund the State Police.

"It has been 28 years since the Oregon State Police began experiencing cuts, spanning the terms of several Democratic governors and Democratic Speakers," Rep. Scott said. "Even with \$152 million in new revenue since the last forecast, you'd think Democratic leadership would prioritize these dollars and spend just over \$4 million to assure round-the-clock coverage. The bottom line is this budget shortchanges the Patrol Division and fails to get us to 24/7 Trooper coverage."

Rep. Scott has worked to pass HB 3535, the bill to provide dedicated funding to OSP and assure 24/7 coverage without raising taxes. Democrats have kept the bill in the Joint Ways and Means Committee, presumably to let it die for the 2007 session.

[Click here to watch video of Rep. Scott's speech](#) during May 29's debate on the OSP budget.

email: [wayne@waynescott.org](mailto:wayne@waynescott.org)

phone: (503) 986-1400

web: <http://www.waynescott.org>