



# **GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND HR PARTNERS PUBLIC POLICY REVIEW AND OUTLOOK**

**Libby Batlan & Hans Bernard  
UO State Affairs  
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# Meet the UO GR Team



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# Government Relations FAQs

- **Q: When does the Oregon Legislature meet?**

**A:** Every year. Sessions last the 165 days in odd-numbered years and 35 days in even-numbered years.

- **Q: How do I know what policies they are considering in a given session?**

- **A:** There's a few ways to follow along...

- Ask your UO lobbyists
- Visit the Oregon Legislative Information System (OLIS)
- Ask your representative on the UO Bill Review Committee

- **Q: A bill is introduced that would dramatically alter PERS! What do I do?**

**A:** Don't panic! The legislature considers as many as 1,500 bills each session, most of which are amended before they pass. So, what you see at first, is often not what becomes law.

# 2017-19 Policy Review



- **Labor & Employment Legislation:**

## 2017

- Senate Bill 201: Remuneration for Public University PERS Members
- Senate Bill 214: PERS Exclusion for Public University Postdocs
- Senate Bill 299: Limits and Applications of Sick Time Policies
- Senate Bill 1040: State Policy to Allow Union Security Agreements
- House Bill 2005: Pay Equity
- House Bill 3170: Collective Bargaining Rights of Faculty

## 2018

- Senate Bill 1566: Public Employees Retirement System Funding
- House Bill 4046: Outside Compensation to University Employees
- House Bill 4159: PERS Individual Account Program

# 2017-19 Policy Review



## Health Care Legislation:

- Senate Bill 187: Vision Screening Reimbursement (2017)
- Senate Bill 934: Health Care Payment Reform (2017)
- House Bill 3276: Treatment Reimbursement for Disease Outbreaks (2017)
- House Bill 3391: Reproductive Health Care Coverage (2017)
- House Bill 4005: Prescription Drug Transparency (2018)
- House Bill 4104: Hearing Loss Treatments (2018)

## Education & Workforce Legislation:

- House Bill 4046: PERS and Outside Compensation to Higher Education Employees (2018)
- House Bill 2864: Cultural Competence at Postsecondary Education Institutions (2018)
- House Bill 2332: Ratio of State Employees to Supervisory Employees (2017)

# A Look Ahead: 2019 Session Landscape



- Lawmakers will face a budget shortfall to fill through cuts to services/programs and potential revenue increases.
- PERS legislation is unknown, although the Governor may continue to implement recommendations from the PERS UAL Task Force.
- It can be expected that bills that reduce retirement benefits will be introduced, but the Legislature is restricted by previous Court rulings about how contractual benefits can be changed. Any change must be prospective.
- Policy around paid family leave will be introduced and has a good chance of passage depending upon election results.

# A Look Ahead:

# 2019 UO Legislative Agenda



- **Public University Support Fund (Operating Budget)**
  - An increase of **\$130 million** to keep resident tuition rates at or below 5% for both years of the biennium.
- **Capital Construction Funding**
  - Prioritization of deferred maintenance projects
  - Campus public safety
- **Policy Agenda**
  - TBD

# Additional Resources



- **Oregon Legislative Website**
  - [www.oregonlegislature.gov](http://www.oregonlegislature.gov)
  - [www.olis.leg.state.or.us](http://www.olis.leg.state.or.us)
- **UO Government and Community Relations Website**
  - [www.gcr.uoregon.edu](http://www.gcr.uoregon.edu)



# Questions?

