

# OHA, NRA win appeal of gun storage title

By AI Elkins, OHA Lobbyist Alvinelkins@yahoo.com

The Oregon Supreme Court on March 5 released a ruling in favor of an appeal filed by NRA and OHA challenging the ballot title for Initiative Petition 40 (IP40). As a result of the Supreme Court decision, IP40 is referred back to the Attorney General for modification.

IP40 contains locked gun storage requirements, reporting of stolen guns, and strict liability for injuries.

In an Oct. 15 letter about the proposed ballot title for IP40, OHA stated:

"The Draft Ballot Title for IP 40 is misleading by omission and does not adequately summarize the full and far-reaching effects this Initiative Petition could have on hundreds of thousands of lawabiding Oregonians including hunters and who are members of our association."

Paul Donheffner, OHA's Legislative Committee Chairman, called the Supreme Court decision a great win. "The Attorney General completely glossed over the implications of IP40, and ignored OHA's comments. We are very pleased that the Supreme Court agreed with us in handing down this important decision."

We would like to thank OHA members, the NRA and the other gun rights advocacy groups for a job well done. OHA is also closely watching the progress of several other gun initiatives with restrictions similar to IP 40.

See latest on other gun petitions on next page or www.oregonhunters.org/legislative



OHA's Union-Wallowa County banquet was the last fund-raiser before the statewide hiatus.

## OHA sets sights on new banquet dates

In response to the Governor's rules to slow the spread of COVID-19 in Oregon, OHA has been scrambling to reschedule its annual fund-raising banquets around the state.

We'll post updated banquet and event information as it becomes available on our website (https://oregonhunters.org). At Tracker deadline, here is what we know at this point about banquets that could be affected:

#### **MARCH 14:**

Union-Wallowa County: Took place March 14.

Bend: Rescheduled for August 15.

Degree Wellow Rescheduled for July 25.

**Rogue Valley:** Rescheduled for July 25. **MARCH 21:** 

Clatsop: Postponed; reschedule date TBA.
Josephine County: Rescheduled for July 18.
Yamhill County: Canceled.

#### **MARCH 28:**

Capitol: Rescheduled for June 20.

#### APRIL 4:

**Baker:** Postponed; reschedule date TBA. **Blue Mountain:** Canceled.

Lake County: Rescheduled for June 13. Mid-Willamette: Rescheduled for June 27 Tioga: Rescheduled for May 2 at this time. Tualatin Valley: Rescheduled for July 11.

#### APRIL 25:

Klamath: Canceled.

#### **MAY 2:**

Tillamook: May 2 at this time.

#### **MAY 30:**

State Convention: May 30 at this time.

**Projects:** All chapter work projects have been canceled through April 23 at this time.

**Youth Events:** Pioneer and Tioga chapters have canceled youth days

RYAN COOK

## Walkout stifles legislative session

By Al Elkins, OHA Lobbyist Alvinelkins@yahoo.com

The 2020 legislative session started in early February at a fast pace with hearings being held and bills being passed. Then, on Feb. 24, Senate Republicans announced a boycott and on Feb. 25 the House Republicans announced a boycott.

OHA was supporting several bills and

following many others. The session never recovered.

Here's a list of the bills that died as the session reached an early end:

- HB 4005 Gun Storage Bill
- HB 4075 Covote Contest Ban
- HB 4052 Residency Bill
- HB 4091 Sage Grouse Fund
- SB 1543 Group Sports Pac





### **Gun petitions await Supreme Court rulings**

By Al Elkins, OHA Lobbyist Alvinelkins@yahoo.com



All of these initiatives are awaiting responses from the attorney general or from the courts in response to challenges from OHA, NRA and others.

- IP 40 Requires locked gun storage, reporting stolen guns, strict liability for injuries. OHA appealed the draft ballot title in cooperation with the NRA and won, and it has been sent back to the attorney general for modification.
- IP 60 Regulates semi-automatic guns

and large-capacity magazines. Appealed to the Oregon Supreme Court on Feb. 28.

- IP 61 Sale/transfer of certain semiautomatic firearms requires gun dealer, safety course, waiting period, age 21. Appealed to the Oregon Supreme Court on March 3.
- IP 62 Prohibits firearm magazines capable of holding more than 10 rounds of ammunition; provides for exceptions. Allows persons who have magazines over 10 rounds to keep them. Appealed to the Oregon Supreme Court on March 3.

## Make the most of your written comments

By Amy Patrick, OHA Outreach Coordinator Amy@oregonhunters.org

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Building on our efforts to help members prepare for providing testimony to commission and legislative bodies, we now have to ask the question, "what if there are no meetings?" This is an unprecedented time we are in the midst of, with in-person interactions being severely limited. While "social distancing" has become a part of our accepted nomenclature, the work of committees, boards, commissions and representatives still must get done.

Providing written comments will be the most appropriate and effective way to communicate with necessary entities while the country deals with the cancelation of in-person meetings.

Similar to our previous outline on providing effective testimony, writ**Providing** written comments is kev while we deal with canceled meetings.

ten testimony should be kept concise, no more than a page in . length. Begin with a clear statement of the issue being addressed and either the support or opposition of that issue. It's helpful to list the supporting statements in a bulleted format for easy read-

ing by commissioners, legislators and partnering organizations.

As with oral testimony, building the argument in factual statements provides a solid base to then add personal experience and create an authentic presentation. Whether delivered in-person or on paper, this type of testimony can be very effective and we encourage members to contact staff regarding topics they may be interested in taking part in.





## deer and elk hunt raffles drawn March 21.

#### Zumwalt hunt winners drawn

OHA officials on March 21 drew the winning tickets for our sold-out raffles for deer and elk hunts on The Nature Conservancy's Zumwalt Prairie Preserve. Deer Winner: Irene Vandecuevering, Garibaldi Elk Winner: Mike Highland, Sherwood

Raffle proceeds support OHA's mission, and we thank all who bought tickets.

## OHA chapters up bighorn poaching reward to \$3,500

OHA has increased the reward to \$3,500 for information leading to an arrest for the poaching of a bighorn ram in Wallowa County the last week of January.

OHA's Turn In Poachers (TIP) fund is offering the standard \$1,000, while the OHA Bend, Josephine County, Rogue Valley, Umpqua and Yamhill County chapters have each pledged \$500 toward the \$3,500 total.

The informant may remain anonymous, and may choose to take five preference points in lieu of a cash reward.

The ram was shot on the Wenaha Wildlife Area along the road leading to the feed site. The ram wore a telemetry collar and ear tag. The collar and severed ear were the only items left at the scene.

Anyone with information is asked to call the TIP line at (800) 452-7888, \*OSP(677) or Sergeant Chris Hawkins (541) 963-7575 ext. 4670.

The informant may remain anonymous and still collect a reward, and may choose five big game preference points from ODFW in lieu of a cash reward.