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78th Legislative Assembly SENATE INTERIM FINANCE & REVENUE COMMITTEE

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Interim Committee Issues

•Tax Reform Options

 HB 2171directs the Legislative Revenue Office to conduct an analysis of major tax reform proposals and report to the revenue committees in the 2016 session. The analysis is to include proposals for changes to the personal income tax, the property tax and restructuring of business taxes. LRO will update the committee during the interim on scenarios and findings.

•Analysis and Potential Modification of Oregon's Tax Haven Law

Oregon's tax haven law, passed in 2013, first applied to the 2014 corporate tax year. SB 61 (2015) directs the Legislative Revenue Office to analyze data from corporate tax returns when they become available and report to the revenue committees. In addition, the original 2013 legislation directs the Department of Revenue to make recommendations on possible changes to the list of tax haven jurisdictions every two years.

•Clarification of Non-Profit Property Tax Laws

The committee will work with assessors, the Department of Revenue and interested parties to develop statutory language that will lead to clear and consistent treatment of how non-profit property is taxed on a statewide basis. Given the complexity and ambiguity of current law, this process is expected to continue into the 2017 regular session.

•Tax Credit Review

•The tax credit review process has now gone through a full three biennium cycle. This means that many of the credits up for review in the 2017 session were considered in the 2011 session. These include energy related credits and those directed at economic development.

•State Reserve Fund Policy

 The committee devoted considerable time to developing policies to strengthen the state's reserve fund position. The 2015 Legislature approved SB 800 which establishes a task force (which includes the committee chair and vice-chair) to examine the state's current reserve fund policies. The committee will receive updates on the work of the task force and consider possible legislation based on its work.

•Possible Clean-Up Bills for 2016 Session

- •LRO will maintain a list of possible clean-up legislation to be considered in the 2016 session. Concepts currently on the list are:
 - •Clarify the mechanism by which taxpayers can donate their kicker credits to the State School Fund.
 - •Modify implementing language for the food processing tax exemption approved by the 2015 session (HB 3125).
 - •Clarification of pricing standards for transferable credits that are sold through a third party.

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