

Meeting:	<b>Paid Leave Oregon Advisory Committee</b>				
Date/time:	<b>March 1, 2023</b>				
Location:	Microsoft Teams				
Attendees:	P (Present) A (Absent) S (sent sub)				
	Facilitator: Karen Madden Humelbaugh Scribe: Mackenzie Jones				
<b>Members</b>		<b>Staff</b>		<b>Guest</b>	
P	Karen Madden Humelbaugh	P	Mackenzie Jones		
P	David Gerstenfeld	P	Shannon Ball		
P	Jeannine Beatrice	P	Juan Serratos		
A	Amanda Dalton (employers)	A	Danielle Willey		
A	Jenny Dresler (employers)	P	Michele Roland-Schwartz		
A	Eric Hunter (employers)	P	Angela Yeager		
P	JaJetta Dumdi (employers)	A	Rachel Bruneau		
P	Andrea Paluso (employees)				
P	Eva Rippeteau (employees)				
A	Linda Herrera (employees)				
P	Catie Theisen (employees)				

## Agenda

Docket #	Topic	Purpose	Presenter
1.0	<b>Welcome</b>	Inform	Karen Madden Humelbaugh &
1.1	Member Roundtable		David Gerstenfeld
1.2	Agency & Program Updates		
1.3	Approval of February Meeting Notes		

Quorum was not met, February notes will be reviewed at the next meeting.

David Gerstenfeld shared agency updates. The agency recently completed the biennial Ways and Means budget presentation with good success. The Employment Department is also reviewing and revising the agency budget based on information provided in the recent economic forecast update. Economic conditions have a large impact on the agency's workload in terms of number of people seeking unemployment insurance and help finding jobs. Paid Leave Oregon is one of the Governor administration's top priorities and continues to provide support to the program.

2.0	<b>Operations, Benefits &amp; Policy Updates</b>	Inform	Danielle Willey & Shannon Ball
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Shannon Ball provided policy and legislative updates. The Paid Leave team is tracking 11 bills that relate to the program. Most of these bills have not had any activity yet. The program has three legislative concepts that were previously discussed in detail with the committee, including:

1. HB2290 – Bill has passed committee and is headed to Ways and Means
2. SB912 – No hearings yet but will likely be scheduled for next week. The program has requested an amendment to have parts of the section that relate to contributions be applicable from January 1, 2023 when contributions went live.

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3. SB913 – No hearings yet but will likely be scheduled for next week.

Several of the other bills the team is tracking are study bills including SB999 and SB3336. There is a workgroup currently looking at alignment for Paid Leave and OFLA.

David Gerstenfeld expressed his gratitude for the help of this committee and hopes that the legislature will look to this group for agreement on SB912 and SB913 in particular. Andrea Paluso shared that she is comfortable with the discussions on these bills but is reviewing the concepts more fully and hopes to be able to answer this week regarding possibly signing a letter of support.

Based on the information the team has received regarding collective bargaining agreements, if you have a collective bargaining agreement that has not been open prior to Sept 29, 2019, employers and employees are still required to pay contributions to the Paid Leave program which will be due on the first quarterly report in May.

Karen Madden Humelbaugh provided some equivalent plan updates and operational updates. The program continues to work with the Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS) to review insurance policies. So far they have 11 approved insurance providers which has in turn allowed the team to approve additional equivalent plan applications. The team has received about 870 equivalent plan applications and have approved about 600. Paid Leave staff are contacting any employers who submitted a Declaration of Intent to provide and equivalent plan but who have not yet turned in their full application to offer assistance, answer questions and assist in getting the plan submitted.

Some employers have filed their report early and the program has now received about \$9.7m in contributions received. This has helped confirm that the system is working properly.

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3.0	<b>Customer Care, Outreach &amp; Communication Updates</b>	Inform	Michele Schwartz & Angela Yeager
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Michele Schwartz shared customer care and outreach updates. The outreach team just started a new virtual series, “Contributions Explained,” which they are hosting in collaboration with the Department of Revenue to support employers with filing their first quarterly report. The team is traveling and connecting with both employers and workers across the state.

Angela Yeager shared communication updates. Paid Leave is working with the website contractor to plan out the next phase of the site. Some features they intend to add include more information about appeals, more information about benefits and a benefits calculator. They are hoping these updates will be available on the website by June 2023. The communications team is also beginning the planning process with their communications vendor, Brink, to prepare the media and marketing campaign for employees. They have started strategy planning sessions and will move into the creative development of that campaign later this month. Additionally, there will be a new series of ads around quarterly payroll, beginning in April.

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4.0	<b>Additional Program Updates</b>	Inform	Karen Madden Humelbaugh
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Karen Madden Humelbaugh encourages the committee members to share information about the program with their constituency groups, help ensure workers are informed about contributions, encourage people to visit the website and sign up for Paid Leave bulletins, share the team’s hiring announcements to their networks, and get Paid Leave connected with different communities for two-way engagement.

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## Action Items

Action	Assigned	Due Date	Completed
Approve February notes at next meeting	Karen	4/5/23	