

For Immediate Release:
May 17, 2006

Contact: Kendra Kimbirauskas, 503/997-7438 cell
Jonathan Poisner, 503/490-1234 cell

Oregon League of Conservation Voters Efforts Secure Primary Victories for the Environment

Conservationists claim victory in 8 of 10 contested races across Oregon

Salem The Oregon League of Conservation Voters (OLCV) won 8 of its 10 targeted races in the May Primary.

“A majority of Oregon Voters want elected officials who will protect our water, air and natural areas,” said Jonathan Poisner, Executive Director of OLCV.

OLCV won 2 out of 3 races where it combined grassroots phoning and door-knocking with financial resources to target incumbents for defeat.

“Defeating incumbents is difficult,” said Poisner. “By defeating two of the three we targeted in the primary, we hope it sends a clear signal to local city and county officials that voting against a healthy environment has consequences.”

Most prominently, OLCV helped to oust incumbents Anna Morrison on the Lane County Commission and Jim Randall from the Salem City Council. Morrison had scored 0% on three consecutive OLCV Lane County Commission Scorecards. Randall scored 16% on OLCV’s 2004-2005 Salem City Council Scorecard. Both Randall and Morrison were heavily backed by developers.

OLCV’s Ten Primary Target Races and Results:

Metro Council District 4	Kathryn Harrington	Win	Leading vote getter in 4 way nonpartisan primary, heading to run-off
Jackson County Commission	Tom Winmill	Win	Won contested Democratic primary
West Lane County Commission	Bill Fleenor	Win	Defeated incumbent Anna Morrison
Washington County Commission Dist. 2	Desari Caldwell	Win	Leading vote getter in 3 way nonpartisan primary, heading to run-off
Washington County Commission Dist. 4	Susan McLain	Loss	Loss to incumbent Andy Duyck and one other in 3-way race
Salem City Council Ward 2	Laura Tesler	Win	Defeated incumbent Jim Randall in two-way race
Eugene City Council, Ward 3	Alan Zelenka	Win	Surpassed 50% in 3-way nonpartisan primary, winning outright
Lincoln City Mayor	Lori Hollingsworth	Win	Leading vote getter in 3-way nonpartisan primary, heading to run-off
Portland City Council	Erik Sten	Win	Appears to have won outright in 7 way nonpartisan primary, but too close to call
Springfield City Council Ward 5	Fred Simmons	Loss	Loss to incumbent John Woodrow

Facts about OLCV PAC's total voter contact in the 2006 primary

Unlike most PACs, which write checks to candidates, OLCV PAC spends the majority of its resources directly contacting voters at the door, on the phone, and by mail about which candidates deserve their support.

County	Candidates	Volunteer Shifts	Calls & Knocks	Mailers	Appx. \$ Spent
Clackamas	<i>Peterson</i>	41	2,350	n/a	\$2,000
Jackson	<i>Winmill</i>	35	1,600	n/a	\$1,300
Lane	<i>Fleenor, Simmons, Zelenka</i>	102	6,000	9,000	\$13,000
Lincoln	<i>Hollingsworth</i>	46	2,755	1,000	\$4,000
Marion	<i>Tester</i>	56	3,177	1,600	\$4,500
Multnomah	<i>Sten, Brading</i>	92	6,800	n/a	\$1,600
Washington	<i>Caldwell, McLain, Harrington</i>	103	6,000	8,000	\$13,000
Total		470	28,682	20,600	\$39,400

The Oregon League of Conservation Voters is the political voice of Oregon's environmental movement. OLCV is a non-partisan, non-profit organization that educates Oregonians on how their elected officials and candidates stand on environmental issues, endorses and helps elect pro-environment candidates.