

## Small party wants bigger say on 'pocketbook issues'

1. Adjective
2. Noun
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10. Adjective
11. Noun
12. Adjective
13. Noun
14. Verb - Past Tense
15. Noun - Plural
16. To
17. Verb - Present Ends In S
18. Number
19. Number
20. Job
21. Organization
22. Location

23. Name
24. Organization
25. Issue
26. Name
27. City Government Office
28. Issue
29. Year
30. Issue
31. Color
32. Color
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34. Color
35. Color
36. Color
37. Name
38. Job
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# Small party wants bigger say on 'pocketbook issues'

With the primaries ended this week, a small, little-known political party that focuses on workers' issues is launching a \_\_\_\_\_ Adjective \_\_\_\_\_ Noun \_\_\_\_\_ Noun \_\_\_\_\_ in anticipation of the November election.

The aim of the Oregon Working Families Party is to influence state policy by \_\_\_\_\_ Adjective \_\_\_\_\_ rural and urban voters around \_\_\_\_\_ Noun \_\_\_\_\_ table economic issues that matter to working people. The party, which takes no position on \_\_\_\_\_ Adjective \_\_\_\_\_ issues such as \_\_\_\_\_ Adjective \_\_\_\_\_ Noun \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ Noun \_\_\_\_\_, promotes itself as "the \_\_\_\_\_ Adjective \_\_\_\_\_ Noun \_\_\_\_\_, pocketbook issues party," says Jeff Anderson, a member of the party's steering committee.

A powerful tool it will use to push its agenda is an electoral strategy called fusion voting, a version of which became legal again in Oregon in 2009. It allows political parties to \_\_\_\_\_ Adjective \_\_\_\_\_ candidates on the ballot -- that is, to give their \_\_\_\_\_ Noun \_\_\_\_\_ to candidates from other parties.

"It allows us to endorse candidates and then hold them \_\_\_\_\_ Verb - Past Tense \_\_\_\_\_," said Barbara Dudley, party co-chair, "without running our own candidates who could function as \_\_\_\_\_ Noun - Plural \_\_\_\_\_."

Party representatives will soon start \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ major party candidates to \_\_\_\_\_ Verb - Present ends in S \_\_\_\_\_ where they stand on Working Families Party issues.

The

party has about \_\_\_\_\_<sup>Number</sup>\_\_\_\_\_,000 members, mainly in the Portland area and many of whom are union affiliated. Dudley hopes to have \_\_\_\_\_<sup>Number</sup>\_\_\_\_\_,000 registered members by August.

So who is joining the party and why? Bruce Cronk, 68, is a retired \_\_\_\_\_<sup>Job</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ and member of the \_\_\_\_\_<sup>Organization</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ Steel Workers Union who lives in suburban \_\_\_\_\_<sup>Location</sup>\_\_\_\_\_. He joined the OWFP after the 2008 general election because he felt that Republicans and Democrats were beholden to big business and Wall Street.

"Sen. Ron Wyden," he said, is "unabashed about his support of free trade. That doesn't make any points with me. The Democrats need a third party to push them to deal with workers' issues."

\_\_\_\_\_<sup>Name</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ Carter, 24, works for the \_\_\_\_\_<sup>Organization</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ Authority of Portland. She attended an OWFP happy hour presentation about fusion voting.

"It really caught my interest," she said. "It allows third parties to play a much greater role. I decided that it was a party I wanted to give my full support to. Being a single mom, I love that they are pushing for \_\_\_\_\_<sup>Issue</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ disability insurance for all Oregonians."

Another Portlander, \_\_\_\_\_<sup>Name</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ Haines, 49, works part time for the city's \_\_\_\_\_<sup>City Government Office</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ of Planning

and Sustainability and part time in a restaurant. She describes herself as very progressive and says she is passionate about the right of workers to organize. She also likes the party's campaign to \_\_\_\_\_ Issue \_\_\_\_\_ a state-owned bank, similar to the one that has existed in North Dakota since 1919.

"I like the idea of keeping investments local," she said.

The idea is that state agencies would deposit their funds in the bank, which would then use them for loans to local farmers, students and small businesses and to promote the local economy in other ways. The party is asking major party candidates seeking endorsements to support the creation of a state bank.

Also on the platform for \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_: \_\_\_\_\_ Issue \_\_\_\_\_ higher education and a call to "tie \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_ strings to \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_ jobs." In other words, to make sure that \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_ jobs that garner tax breaks for corporations are worker-friendly. Some \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_ jobs -- recycling or solar energy installation, for example -- can pay low wages with no benefits.

"I really like that it doesn't have to be about \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_," Haines said, "to be able to take an issues-based stand, and judge a candidate on those, is really effective."

\_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_ Rodgers, 39, a \_\_\_\_\_ Job \_\_\_\_\_ from Sweet Home, makes a similar point. He was a registered

\_\_\_\_\_ Political Party \_\_\_\_\_

before switching to OWFP, which, he said, "does a good job of isolating \_\_\_\_\_ *Adjective* \_\_\_\_\_ issues and concentrating on issues that really \_\_\_\_\_ *Adjective* \_\_\_\_\_ to working people.

"The workers of this country," he said, "need a third party that looks out for them."

--Rebecca Koffman, Special to The Oregonian