

Rep. Galizio to resign seat, take job with higher edPosted by [hesteve](#) August 12, 2009 14:06PM

Rep. Larry Galizio, D-Tigard

Another shake-up among Democrats in the state Legislature -- Rep. Larry Galizio, of Tigard, said today he's resigning his seat to take a job with the Oregon University System. Higher education Chancellor George Pernsteiner confirmed that Galizio will take a job as an "academic planner" working to coordinate university programs with community colleges.

Galizio said he talked to the chancellor late Tuesday and came to an agreement about the job. He said he has yet to negotiate a contract or set a salary.

He said his job would be to work for "a better alignment between community colleges and the university system. We're trying to get more under-served Oregonians into post-secondary education."

Galizio, 45, is nearing the end of his third term. He taught at the community college level and was head of the debate program at Portland Community College's Sylvania campus before it was cut as part of an overall budget reduction in 2004.

He said the axing of the program was partly what led him to run for the House. Pernsteiner said he wanted someone with Galizio's background.

"The Legislature asked us to do a considerable amount of work with community colleges in the coming biennium," Pernsteiner said. "I thought it would be helpful to have someone with a lot of community college connections."

Earlier this month, Rep. Chris Edwards, D-Eugene, moved to the Senate to fill the vacancy left by former Sen. Vicki Walker, who accepted an appointment as chairwoman of the state parole board. Galizio's resignation is effective Aug. 31.

The Washington County board of commissioners will select a replacement from a pool of three to five candidates chosen by local Democratic Party officials. Galizio said he hopes they pick Margaret Doherty, an education activist.

- Harry Esteve; harryestev@news.oregonian.com

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Comments**aleut57 says...**

He can't even commit to finishing his term. Now he's going into Higher ED. Lord help them..

Posted on 08/12/09 at 2:32PM

rontrose says...

So here is Galizio's payoff for switching his vote on the Metolius bill. I wonder how blatant the Governor was on this - "Larry, if you switch your vote I will make sure you get a sweet paid job in higher ed." Or maybe something less direct but still enough to buy the guy's vote. Politics at its finest.

Posted on 08/12/09 at 2:32PM

breadbox says...

Nice example for the Kids!

"Go ahead and Just Drop-Out!"

Really Ted?

Posted on 08/12/09 at 3:22PM

mynewlogin says...

...he follows a long line of ex-legislators pulling in substantially higher salaries in a state government job ... did he actually compete for the job or was it somehow "created" to match his interests.

Posted on 08/12/09 at 3:46PM

orchid124 says...

It's unfortunate to lose such a great progressive voice in the legislature. Thank you Larry for being a champion for higher-ed and in particular, community colleges in the Legislature. Although we're losing you in the Legislature, you will continue to be a great advocate for higher ed with OUS.

Posted on 08/12/09 at 3:52PM

positivewins says...

On the bright side, we've identified the first government job to be eliminated when the tax increases are repealed next January.

Posted on 08/12/09 at 4:38PM

fwleonhardt says...

Galizio's new job coming on the heels of his timely Metolius flip-flop is known in Illinois as "pay for play." In Oregon it's called "career advancement."

From the Oregonian, June 22:

In a brief and a fairly unemotional 10-minute debate, Rep. Larry Galizio, D-Tigard, said he had changed his mind and supported the bill. Galizio said he switched following a "convincing" phone call from the governor and

"an outpouring" of letters and contacts from the public.

Posted on 08/13/09 at 8:25AM

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