

Office of the Secretary of State

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The Honorable Theodore R. Kulongoski
Governor of Oregon

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the State of Oregon, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2008, which collectively comprise the State of Oregon's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the State of Oregon's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We did not audit the financial statements of the discretely presented component units. We also did not audit the financial statements of the University System or the Veterans' Loan Fund, which represent 42 percent and 35 percent, respectively, of the assets and revenues of the business-type activities. Those financial statements were audited by other auditors whose reports thereon have been furnished to us, and our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for the discretely presented component units, the University System, and the Veterans' Loan Fund, is based on the reports of the other auditors.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. The financial statements of the Oregon University System Foundations, a discretely presented component unit, were not audited in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. An audit includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the State's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. As part of our audit, we performed audit procedures related to the Common School Fund, a major governmental fund. The State Land Board was created to manage lands dedicated to the Common School Fund with the objective of obtaining the greatest benefit for the people of Oregon. The Oregon Constitution designates the Secretary of State as both a member of the State Land Board and Auditor of Public Accounts. To minimize this impairment, auditors who did not have any known personal impairments in relation to the Common School Fund performed the audit. We believe that our audit and the reports of the other auditors provide a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, based on our audit and the reports of other auditors, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the State of Oregon, as of June 30, 2008, and the

respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, thereof for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

As discussed in Note 1 to the financial statements, on July 1, 2007, the State of Oregon adopted Governmental Accounting Board (GASB) Standard No. 45, *Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*. GASB Statement No. 45 establishes standards for the measurement, recognition, and disclosure of OPEB expenditures and related liabilities.

As discussed in Note 23 to the financial statements, the comparability of the financial statements with those of preceding periods is affected by the PERS change in policy related to its definition of cash equivalents and other accounting matters related to derivatives and short sale of securities.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we also issue a separate report on our consideration of the State of Oregon's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

The management's discussion and analysis on pages 12 through 21, budgetary comparison information on pages 120 through 126, and the schedule of funding progress on page 127 are not a required part of the basic financial statements but are supplementary information required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the State of Oregon's basic financial statements. The introductory section, combining fund financial statements and statistical section are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. The combining fund financial statements have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied by us and the other auditors in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, based on our audit and the report of other auditors, are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The introductory section and statistical section have not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied by us and the other auditors in the audit of the basic financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

OREGON AUDITS DIVISION



Kate Brown
Secretary of State

January 12, 2009