Governor calls for cutting federal subsidies that perpetuate oil dependency

by Bend Weekly News Sources

Urges Adoption of Proposal to Shift Funds to Alternative Energy Development Wednesday, in advance of yesterdayâ€™s floor debate, Governor Ted Kulongoski urged the leadership of the U.S. House of Representatives and Oregonâ€™s Congressional delegation to adopt H.R. 6, which would reallocate $13 billion in federal oil and gas industry subsidies towards investments in renewable energy technologies. â€œLast yearâ€™s Energy Bill was a handout to the oil and gas industry at a time when our country should have been focusing investment in alternative forms of energy that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, create energy security, and spur economic opportunities here in this country,â€• wrote Governor Kulongoski. â€œCongress now has a chance to reverse that decision and adopt a more strategic and effective energy policy.â€• The Governorâ€™s call comes as he is pushing an aggressive legislative agenda to set the state of Oregon on a path to energy independence. This session, Governor Kulongoski looks forward to working with legislators to enact a renewable energy standard requiring 25 percent of Oregonâ€™s energy to come from renewable sources by 2025, a biofuels package including a renewable fuels standard, an expansion of the Business Energy Tax Credit and a major increase investment in the research and development of renewable and alternative energy sources. â€œOregon is paving the way on multiple fronts from biofuels for our vehicles to a variety or renewable resources including wind, solar, biomass and now the promise of wave energy to heat and light our homes,â€• the Governor wrote the delegation. â€œWith a strong partner at the federal level, I am confident we can meet our goals in Oregon and nationally.â€• A copy of the letter can be viewed by clicking here.