



## **Support HB 4117 Which Modifies the Landscape Contractor License** **Practical Skills Examination**

Following the passage of HB 3304 in the 2015 legislative session, the Practical Skills Implementation Committee (PSIC) was formed to help establish a Practical Skills Examination option for Landscape Contractor License applicants. Principal to its recommendations is that the current Certified Landscape Technician examination serves as the hands-on examination for the landscape contractor license. That examination is currently offered on an annual basis by the Oregon Landscape Contractors Association (OLCA) and both OLCA and the National Association of Landscape Professions, who owns the examination, are in support of sharing this examination with the Landscape Contractors Board.

However, the PSIC has identified some other modifications that require statutory amendments. Those revisions include:

- Changing the numbers of times the practical skills exam is required to be provided from three (3) times per year for two (2) consecutive days to one (1) time per year for one (1) day.
- Allowing the combination of written sections and practical skills sections for licensure.
- Permitting candidates to attend the business course at any time through the examination process.
- Restricting the practical skills examination to be applicable only for a partial phase license, specifically Planting only or Irrigation only.
- Permitting a small, review-type quiz (test) at the end of the business course.
- Adding the allowance of written multiple choice in some sections.

Representative Dallas Heard, a licensed landscape contractor, who sponsored the practical skills examination legislation and served on the PSIC during the interim to assist in its implementation, is introducing these proposed changes in HB 4117. The Oregon Landscape Contractors Association requests your help in the implementation of a viable practical skills examination option for applicants by voting for this legislation.