



THE OREGON  
COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION

Here for Oregon. Here for Good.

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2013 Session  
Joint Committee on  
Ways and Means  
Full Committee

Bill #: State Budget

Pages: 49

Date: 4-13-13

Exhibit #: 1

April 10, 2013

TO: Members of the House Revenue Committee  
RE: Public Testimony on HB 2456—Opposition to Changes in the Charitable Deduction

Dear Members of the Committee:

We are writing to express our opposition to any legislation that reduces or caps the charitable deduction, specifically via HB 2456, SB 305, HB 2001 or other bills introduced in the current session.

The Oregon Community Foundation (OCF) is a statewide community foundation. Our mission is to promote philanthropy and improve life in Oregon. Last year OCF distributed more than \$66 million to nonprofit organizations all over Oregon for human services, education, cultural programs, and diverse forms of volunteer-intensive community service. As a result of our work we are keenly aware of the challenges facing Oregon, including the funding of both public and nonprofit services. We have routinely partnered with the State and its leaders in funding reform and innovation efforts as part of our mission.

Our efforts depend on the generosity of private citizens. The charitable deduction is an important incentive to these donors. *Most nonprofit organizations will attest that their private support comes disproportionately from those with higher incomes.* While a phase-out of the charitable deduction for higher income Oregonians may not touch a majority of individual taxpayers, it will have a significant impact on the total amount of charitable giving. As a community foundation dedicated to creating a permanent endowment for Oregon, our own donors tend to be in the income ranges that HB 2456 specifically targets for reduction or elimination of the charitable deduction. This will directly detract from our ability to develop new funds benefiting Oregonians.

There is significant evidence of direct correlations between reducing the charitable deduction and negative impacts on charitable giving. Three recent studies support this—an Urban Institute report in June 2012, a survey of donors by Bank of America in released in November 2012 and a formal analysis—"How Does Charitable Giving Respond to Tax Incentives and Income?" by Jon Bajika and Bradley T. Heim in the National Tax Journal in June 2011.

The state's own budget projections suggest that the revenue forgone by the state through the charitable deduction leverages 10 times that amount in donations to nonprofit organizations. Using that very rough measure, gifts by Oregonians to create OCF's endowment of some \$1.3 billion have cost Oregon state government less than \$130 million since 1974. Meanwhile these gifts have enabled OCF to grant more than \$800 million to Oregon nonprofits, a cumulative total now being increased by more than \$65 million every year.

Few can argue about the important work of the nonprofit community, or its significance to Oregon. As a sector, nonprofits employ more than 166,000 Oregonians and represent 13 percent of the private workforce. Harming the capacity of nonprofits to gather resources to serve their communities would be poor public policy. The charitable deduction is not a loophole for the wealthy. In fact, it succeeds admirably in its purpose. It's a modest investment by the state to encourage people to give money away rather than keep it for themselves—and to give away more than they would otherwise give.

The charitable giving incentive is an important and significant element in encouraging support for charities and strengthening communities. We urge you to retain it, and to sustain the ability of such nonprofits as OCF and our many partners to meet the educational, human services and cultural needs of our state.

Respectfully,

Eric Parsons  
Chair

M. Max Williams  
President

Cc: Speaker Tina Kotek, Senator Peter Courtney, Office of the Governor

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Chair Buckley, Chair Devlin  
Members of the Ways and Means Committee

Thank you for holding this hearing today.

My name is Karen Starchvick and I am the Chapter Chair of Stand for Children in Jackson County.

Education has been front and center in budget discussions this session, as it should be. Students continue to languish in class sizes far in excess of national norms. Imagine 32 and 33 kids in third grade classrooms like they have at Howard Elementary.

The proposed budget starts to reinvest in schools for the first time in a decade, but it is not enough to avoid painful cuts in school districts around the state. We can do better. We must do better.

Start by approving HB2897 and SB365 which will get kids with autism spectrum disorder the intervention they need WHEN they need it. Studies demonstrate medically prescribed intervention between ages 2 and 4 works, saving schools and taxpayers far more in the long run than the cost of the intervention in the short run. Insurance companies have been shifting their responsibility far too long. Please do not yield to insurance lobby pressure to exempt applied behavioral analysis from mental health parity laws. Chair Buckley and Senator Bates, thank you for your leadership on this issue.

I understand that if revenues come in \$170 million over forecast, then we could see a personal kicker refund this year while class sizes are growing and school years are shrinking. The legislature should refer the Personal Kicker to the voters. Voters resoundingly approved elimination of the Corporate Kicker last November, and redirected the funds towards education. The legislature should honor the will of the voters and treat any corporate kicker occurring this year in the same way. Thank you Chair Buckley for your leadership on this issue.

We must take a hard look at tax expenditures. Why does Oregon think it can afford to be the only state in the country that allows deductions of medical expenses far in excess of the Federal tax code? In our household, we write off 100% of our family medical expenses, including my daughter's orthodontia, because my husband is 63. Our effective tax rate for 2012 was 4% of our income, in large part due to this deduction. As embarrassed as I am to share this, the Committee needs to hear from people like me.

I believe Republicans will come to the table on revenue reform if democrats meet them with PERS reform. Thank you Co-Chairs Devlin and Buckley for your leadership on this issue, but there is more to be done. Oregon's future obligations under PERS match those of Washington State, even though Washington has twice the economic engine that Oregon has. The system we have designed is unsustainable, largely due to the Money Match program.

The Oregonian gave an example of an employee who worked 5 years as a music teacher in the 1970's before moving on to a career at Hewlett-Packard. His account grew during the golden years and the account value upon eligibility was then matched by the state and used to purchase an annuity with a guaranteed 8% return.

For his 5 years of work as a music teacher and his individual pension contribution of \$2738, that retiree now receives \$28K a year, which is 280% of his final salary as a music teacher (1.) That's just not fair when we have 27 kids in a Kindergarten class at Washington and exploding 4<sup>th</sup> grades of 36 at Mae Richardson.

The vast majority of PERS recipients worked long and hard for their retirement, but there are too many inequities like the preceding example to be ignored. Legislators must continue to work together to find fair and legal reforms to Money Match. Further, the guaranteed 8% return should be adjusted to the current market rate. If the PERS Board or Legislature cannot act on this, then Money Match retirees should

receive a lump sum upon retirement and they can buy an annuity on the open market, like my husband and I purchased for my mother in law 10 years ago, which earns 3.6%.

Please, Oregon children are counting on you, all of you, to put their interests first this session. The future of our state depends upon it.

Thank you.

Karen Starchvick

1. Ted Sickinger, The Oregonian  
on April 06, 2013

**Testimony on ODSVS (SB 5018, Department of Justice budget,**  
Submitted to the Ways and Means Committee in Ashland, OR  
April 13, 2013

By: Steve Works Adult Parole/Probation Officer, Josephine County Community Corrections &  
Chair of the Josephine County Domestic and Sexual Violence Council.

Good morning. My name is Steve Works and I am, an Adult Parole/Probation Officer with Josephine County Community Corrections & Chair of the Josephine County Domestic and Sexual Violence Council. I am a resident of Medford, Oregon.

Thank you for coming to Southern Oregon this Saturday morning, during such a busy time for the legislature, to hear from us.

→ an <sup>of</sup> I am here to ask for your support in relation to <sup>of the</sup> (SB 5018: Department of Justice budget) <sup>to</sup> increase the Oregon Domestic and Sexual Violence Services, Shelter Services Fund so more victims and children can have a safe place to go when fleeing abuse.

➤ <sup>& in</sup> I am also asking for your support related to <sup>the</sup> (SB 5529, DHS Budget) to allow for Domestic Violence Advocates to be co-located at child welfare offices.

➤ In Josephine County where I have been employed in my position for 19 years, I supervised a specialized caseload of convicted sex offenders for over 8 years and had the honor of serving as the Chair of the Statewide, Sex Offender Supervision Network and on the Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force, (and the Offender Response Subcommittee). I currently supervise a specialized caseload of domestic violence abusers and have worked both with and without a victim advocate co-located at my office to provide services to victims, <sup>of abuse</sup> (or more appropriately called survivors). (The advocate position was funded by a Federal grant from the Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women, for 4 years ending in 2012.)

➤ The difference is like night and day and the services provided by a victim advocate working alongside me <sup>were</sup> are invaluable. The needs of the survivors are dynamic and ongoing through the years that the abuser is on supervision. The victim advocate role provided support, counsel, communication and risk assessment tools that served the survivor primarily, but also served a valuable purpose to the effective supervision of the abuser in the community.

➤ Having a victim advocate working closely with the survivor helps in assessing the risk that the abuser poses to the survivor, it provides information about previous behavior necessary to score risk assessment tools, and helps to determine the significance of the abuser's behaviors that would telegraph an increased risk of harm and even lethality to the survivor.

- Domestic and sexual violence - victim advocates, co-located in our communities' Child Welfare Offices, would make a similar profound, positive difference serving the needs of children, women and families.

Increasing ~~the~~ Oregon Domestic and Sexual Violence Services would mean that even more people will be able to access the services they need to become safe and rebuild their lives – and for some people, to even be able to live another day.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to us today.

**Testimony on ODSVS (SB 5018, Department of Justice Budget,**  
Submitted to the Ways and Means Committee in Ashland, OR  
April 13, 2013

By Cynthia Nehf, IPV Advocate, Women's Crisis Support Team (WCST)

Good morning. My name is Cynthia and I'm the Intimate Partner Violence Advocate, WCST and I am a resident of Grants Pass. I am here to ask you to increase the Oregon Domestic and Sexual Violence Services Fund (ODSVS).

I am co-located at DHS-Child Welfare and the Public Health Dept. I work with these agencies to shape practice to effectively respond to domestic violence. I have had the opportunity to work alongside victims who are involved with DHS-Child Welfare.

Co-located advocates have had the opportunity to bring in specialized trainings to these agencies to increase their competencies on domestic violence, but there is much work to be done. Foundations have been laid and ground breaking work is now beginning with the goal of keeping victims and children safe. Child welfare workers are better able to respond to families effectively when they can access the expertise of domestic violence advocates.

This need for this expertise is critical. Victims report, "victim blaming" behaviors by caseworkers; Victims are being directed to get psych. Evaluations when their mental health is not the source of the violence. At times, victims are being mandated to inappropriate services and the perpetrator is not being held accountable for the actions he is taking to harm the children. Victims of domestic violence are being FOUNDED for neglect by child welfare.

Child welfare workers have a genuine desire to do their work better and I have the compassion and commitment to help them in their quest to hold the batterer accountable and to support the victim and her children. One of the safe options available to victims and children is emergency domestic violence shelter services. When a victim and her children are denied shelter in a time of need because of a lack of resources, their lives are literally on the line.

Increasing ODSVS would mean that even more people will be able to access the services they need to become safe and rebuild their lives – and for some people, to even be able to live another day. I would like to invite us all to take a moment of silence on behalf of people being physically or sexually abused right now; particularly those who will go without services if ODSVS is not increased.

Thank you.

Cynthia Nehf  
WCST IPV Advocate

**Good Morning Funding Decisionary Panel and distinguished guests.**

**I HAVE A VOICE. I HAVE CHILDREN. I AM CASSIE**

**I am Cassie Robinson.**

I am currently enrolled with Women's Crisis Support Team where Cynthia Neff is also the facilitator with IPVA.

**I became involved with Women's Crisis Support Team** when the male I had cohabitated with, felt he could treat me with the utmost disrespect as a human being, let alone a woman. During my short dating time with him, I became pregnant and soon found myself in a new home setting known as the "live in" status. **Things didn't become violent until our twins were 4 months old.** Without provocation, his moods far too often, along with his nonsense in logic, he would enter the house, or my bedroom where I would be sleeping and begin to beat on me "because some one pissed him off".

**So what was I doing with a guy like him?**

He came into my life after a devastating 14 year marriage where I was a working wife and business owner, that had ended in divorce. By then my self worth, confidence, trust and Christian believes were frayed **and he, my Mr. Fix It Man, built me up.....or so I thought.** Our household of approximately 2 years, became a patterned way of living, where the ever increasing violence grew by the ticking minute.

**This way of living grew to its melting point when I realized that there would be no change and the threats of "KILLING" became more obvious and blatant by him.**

**"OBVIOUSLY, some one was going to die and it aint gonna be me" as he so often would state.**

# Preferences for Volunteer Activities

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I'm interested in becoming more involved in the following areas. I've checked all that interest me.

- ☐ Community service projects
- ☐ Computer, database, Web site and technology projects
- ☐ Event planning
- ☐ Fundraising
- ☐ Financial planning, budgeting, accounting, audits
- ☐ Marketing/PR/community outreach
- ☐ Meeting planning
- ☐ Membership
- ☐ Newsletter
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Best day(s) of week for volunteer work (check all that apply):

- ☐ Monday
- ☐ Tuesday
- ☐ Wednesday
- ☐ Thursday
- ☐ Friday
- ☐ Saturday
- ☐ Sunday

Best time of day for volunteer work (check all that apply).

- ☐ 8:00 to 10:00 a.m.
- ☐ 10:00 to 12:00 noon
- ☐ 12:00 to 2:00 p.m.
- ☐ 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
- ☐ 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.
- ☐ 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
- ☐ 8:00 to 10:00 p.m.

I've served as a leader in these nonprofit organizations in recent years: \_\_\_\_\_



At my final exit from domestic violence and abuse, I fled with my children to a Domestic Violence shelter where he found me. In a fit of rage he took one of our children to ensure that I would go with him. **The degree of his escalated violence left me no options but to return with him. He had in fact, called the 24 hour Crisis Line where he made his statements of taking the liberty of stating "I'm burning up and setting the F\*&#@n place on fire and everyone with it."**

**Once again I found myself in the planning mode of my children's and my escape.**

My children being children, were so innocent in not understanding why their "Daddy" was not with them, when would they see him? Touch him or hear his voice? Their acting out, change of eating habits, loss of sleep and all in all the loss of themselves. I allowed 1 visit between the children and their Dad.

I take full responsibility. I am at fault when I let my heart act on their behalf and contacted their father with the clear understanding that this visit was for the children's benefit and no other reason. DHS was notified of this visit and the Case Worker was quick to remove my children from my custody and quick to place them in Foster Care.

While in the DHS-CPS enrollment, I encountered many of my rights were violated. There I was abandoned and had no voice. I was alone. I was treated as the Perpetrator, a liar, worthless and unfit mother. I had no one at the DHS office who could give enough time to listen to my reasoning. I was alone, defeated and scared. I found myself questioning and answering.....How could they treat me like this, when I was doing this for the health of my children.....or so I thought. I found myself answering,,,**Girl, you did it because of the love you have for your children.**

**With only me for counsel and comfort and the promise to God that  
I would do everything possible on MY part  
to work at getting my children back.**

**I attended EVERY meeting, every appointment, scheduled and unscheduled, did transporting of other clients in my vehicle to the clients' appointments. All was done and WITHOUT any reimbursement for fuel or thank-you.**

Preferences for Volunteer Activities

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Ed Ragozzino Performance Hall  
 Lane Community College  
 4000 East 30th Avenue  
 Eugene  
 Saturday, April 13  
 10:00-11:30am  
 Music Recital Hall

I'm interested in becoming more involved in the following areas. I've checked all that interest me.

- ☐ Community service projects
- ☐ Computer, database, Web site and technology projects
- ☐ Financial planning, budgeting, accounting and auditing
- ☐ Fundraising
- ☐ Marketing/PR/community outreach
- ☐ Newsletter
- ☐ Other

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☐ 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.  
☐ 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.  
☐ 8:00 to 10:00 p.m.

I've served as a leader in these nonprofit organizations for \_\_\_\_\_ years:

From: Cynthia  
 Date: 04/12/13 09:45:49  
 To: msyiv2010@hotmail.com  
 Subject: Template for Letter-Cassie

Thru a scheduled appointment that my Case Worker once again, failed to keep, Cynthia, who was also scheduled to be in that meeting, was there and saw me. It was at that meeting that Cynthia's interest grew and was surprised at my treatment and violations that were committed against my case and actively became involved.

Thru Cynthia's WCST-IPVA programs, I was guided to the appropriate training classes that I had no idea existed because I had never been advised of them. With the involvement of Women's Crisis Support Team, I was able to find my self , my self worth, and have come to be me again!!!

**Don't think that I am fleeing from being called a VICTIM, or a SURVIVOR. Or that I put distance between those labels....I'm not.** I have a voice and you hear me. I am here alive before you.....you see me. I show no labels because I wear none. Yet you know me.....I am Cassie Robinson, the Lady with a voice who stands here before you asking like a child who prays to God for her petition to be heard.

With your funding to Women's Crisis Support Team, we can diminish titles that will give us back our persona to become known by our names. **Please answer my following questions:**

**Do you see me?**

**Do you hear me?**

**What is my name?**

This is the exact reason why Women's Crisis Support Team where Cynthia Neff facilitates and where IPVA needs your on-going funding.

**Thank you.**

### Preferences for Volunteer Activities

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**I'm interested in becoming more involved in the following areas. I've checked all that interest me.**

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- ☐ Computer, database, Web site and technology projects
- ☐ Event planning
- ☐ Fundraising
- ☐ Financial planning, budgeting
- ☐ Marketing/PR/community outreach
- ☐ Meeting planning
- ☐ Membership
- ☐ Newsletter
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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- ☐ Sunday

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- ☐ 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
- ☐ 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.
- ☐ 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
- ☐ 8:00 to 10:00 p.m.

**I've served as a leader in these nonprofit organizations in recent years:** \_\_\_\_\_

Southern Oregon University

So when it my Co...  
Hi my name is Grace Polk  
I am a President of Grants Pass.  
I have been working with  
Cynthias program for over a  
year now. The education and  
support she recieved has  
changed my life. When I came  
to her class I felt scared,  
broken and alone. I had already  
lost 3 girls to DHS because  
I was uninformed and I was  
so afraid to stick up for my  
self. In 2005 I was being abused  
and had my children taken.  
So when I would go home I  
was told I was an awful  
person, at DHS I was told I  
was an awful mom. I felt  
so defeated that I gave up and  
accepted the fact that I  
was worthless. I almost didn't  
make it I had no hope. DHS  
workers, I feel are very uneducated  
on domestic violence. They need to  
be. I feel that if I would  
have had Cynthias help in  
2005 I would still have my  
girls.

Since going to Class  
I know now I am a  
good person and a good  
mom. I have a four year  
old son. I am in my fourth

term in College and I  
make good choices today  
because of Co located  
Advocates. Because of their  
help DHS was not able  
to treat me like a  
second class citizen. They  
are now being held  
accountable. I'm not the  
only one I see the other  
women from our class and  
there lives are changing.  
Because of working with  
the Advocates I have  
chosen to work in a  
career to help victims  
also.

Please continue to fund  
this program our lives and  
our childrens lives depend  
on it and it works! I'm  
living proof.

Grace Park

**Ways & Means Public Hearings**  
**04/13/2013, Ashland, Oregon**

2013 Session  
Joint Committee on  
Ways and Means  
Full Committee

Bill #: Thomas

Pages: 2

Date: 4.13.13 Exhibit #: 6

**Concierge H**  
**Julie and Jeff Thomas, Grants Pass, OR**

**Introduction**

Jeff and I started our business Concierge Home and Business Watch three (3) short years ago. We had just returned to Grants Pass after several years working over-seas for the US Department of Justice and decided to start a business that would allow us to give back to our community within our areas of expertise in law enforcement with over 50 years combined experience, as well as provide us with the opportunity to work together. We committed to finding a way to reduce crime and increase safety throughout Grants Pass and Josephine County.

**Our Company**

Concierge Home Watch provides home watch services including:

- regular security checks of homes and properties
- 24/7 alarm response
- neighborhood patrols
- response to non-emergency calls
- concierge services including pet, plant and lawn care, welfare checks, airport transportation, housekeeping

Concierge Business Watch provides business watch services including:

- 24/7 security vehicle patrols
- alarm response
- employee escorts
- private investigations
- security for special events and more

**SBDC Support**

When we started our business, we completed a market analysis, developed a business plan and brought it directly to the SBDC for input and guidance. Since then, we have been privileged to receive support from the SBDC through:

- excellent, professional counseling
- relevant and valuable training (SBM Course)
- resourceful advice and mentorship (Next Level Program)
- And, personal attention to OUR needs and desires such as honest evaluations of plans and projects, access to additional resources (ORPIN, ORCA, CCR and Hub Zone and WBE), and information leading to the awarding of a \$25,000 grant, and more.

**Outcomes**

We started our business in Grants Pass with hope and a dream and three home watch customers. Now, we are providing services to several hundred clients throughout all of Josephine and Jackson counties.

- We have expanded to cover the entire Rogue Valley from Ashland to Sunny Valley to include Cave Junction, and plan to continue our expansion where we are needed
- We employ thirty security officers, all Oregonians, who are as committed to the mission of safety and security
- More than 2/3rds of our team are military veterans, half of whom are disabled, and nearly all of them former law enforcement
- We have received three awards; Chamber of Commerce Rising Star, Business Retention and Expansion's Small Business of the Year, and Department of Defense Patriotic Employer

**Ways & Means Public Hearings**  
**04/13/2013, Ashland, Oregon**

**Concierge Home & Business Watch**  
**Julie and Jeff Thomas, Grants Pass, OR**

- We have gone from start-up phase to being a profitable business, even in a down economy
- With assistance provided by our SBDC counselors, we secured Hub Zone, Emerging Small Business and Woman Business Enterprise certifications, and have obtained city, county, state and federal contracts

**Conclusion**

Needless to say, our success is partially due to our dedication and hard work, but the SBDC has helped us to learn how to work SMARTER not HARDER, ensuring that our efforts are profitable AND sustainable!

Thank you!



Ways & Means  
April 13, 2013

2013 Session  
Joint Committee on  
Ways and Means  
Full Committee

Bill #: Gross

Pages: 1

Date: 4-13-13 Exhibit #: 7

Highway Products, White City

SBDC

Good Morning,

My name is Gene Gros, President of Highway Products, we're located in White City, Or. We opened our business in 1980 to manufacturer tool boxes for semi-trucks.

Fast forward to 2011. We're holding our own in the middle of a recession with forty employees when Dave Ellison & Steve Spilker showed up, announcing they were from the Grants Pass Small Business Development Center - Grow Oregon and had a program I might be interested in.

After a couple weeks of analysis, Dave and Steve showed me the potential they thought we had, how they could help as consultants, as well as the commitment I would need to make.

I dropped out of high school in tenth grade so I didn't have much book sense. Plus, I had never had a mentor to call when I had problems. Having a couple high powered consultants sounded pretty good.

So off we went. The first thing we worked on was getting great help. "It takes great employees to make a great company" they would say. So we picked out the areas HPI would benefit most from adding professional help.

Dave and Steve have sat with me during many interviews, showing me what makes a great employee. I can't tell you how much difference this has made. It started me on a new path of interviewing from bottom to top.

We've also worked on getting our financials in better order, new equipment purchases, goals, marketing, research, and sometimes just everyday problems.

I give a lot of credit to them for our gains. As of yesterday, Highway Products employees 77, a net gain of approximately 37 since 2011. Plus, we have ads placed for six more employees. Our business has grown from 3.5 M to almost 7M as well, with this year having a better start than last year.

In closing, I would like to thank the Ways and Mean Committee for supporting Grow Oregon, and Small Business Development Center. Special thanks to Dave Ellison and Steven Spilker for opening my eyes to a new future for Highway Products, Inc.

**Joint Ways & Means Committee: LTC Presentation**

Joint Chairs: Senator Devlin, Representative Buckley, members of the Joint Ways and Means committee, my name is Don Bruland, and I live at 2533 Tahitian Avenue, Medford, OR. I am a member of AARP Oregon's Executive Council.

Our system of Long Term Care was created over 32 years ago in Southern Oregon and has been a model for the nation. It was designed to honor the independence, choice, and dignity of seniors and people with disabilities by supporting home and community-based care alternatives. This system saves Oregon taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars each biennium.

The greatest need for LTC is among those aged 85+. Their numbers in OR will grow from approximately 81,000 in 2010 to over 121,000 in 2022. Investing now in maintaining and growing our LTC System makes sense and will prepare Oregon for this demographic change.

Governor Kitzhaber's recommended budget continues basic funding for Oregon's LTC delivery system. In addition the Governor's budget contains an innovative \$30 million spending package to improve services and supports. This additional funding is essential if we are to build a system that will be sustainable as the population needing LTC assistance grows.

Just as investing in our schools is an investment in our future, so are investments in LTC. For as Rosalyn Carter said: "There are only four kinds of people in the world - those who have been caregivers, those who are caregivers, those who will be caregivers, and those who will need caregivers.

I urge you to fund our LTC system at the levels proposed in the Governor's Budget. Thank you for this opportunity to testify today. I would be happy to answer any questions.

Don Bruland  
541-772-1972  
[dobruland@hotmail.com](mailto:dobruland@hotmail.com)

John Irwin  
RE: Support Oregon Project Independence!

2013 Session  
Joint Committee on  
Ways and Means  
Full Committee  
Date: 4.13.13  
in Irwin [mailto:john@irwinconsulting.com]  
Friday, April 11, 2013 11:16 AM  
to: Lorraine Saldana; dtoler@rvcog.org  
Subject: Support Oregon Project Independence!

Please feel free to carry the following message to the Ways and Means Committee hearing this Saturday. I am unable to make it.

### Statement in Support of Oregon Project Independence

OPI offers help with basic household tasks and helps to keep seniors in their homes instead of being housed in a federally funded (i.e., Medicaid) nursing home. It's a small Oregon taxpayer investment that keeps people out of such facilities, which are far more expensive and without the capacity to meet the needs of these individuals. For many of these elderly, the care they receive means the difference between living on their own (reduces Medicaid expenditures), and living in a nursing home or assisted living center (increases Medicaid expenses)—that is, if they can afford that or even find an opening.

OPI receives no federal matching funds. As such it is a target of budget cutters, especially when tax revenues are down and hard choices have to be made. We are in such a period at this time. The argument that a small upfront investment saves money in the long run has been made since the day OPI was created. By not giving help to needy individuals through OPI, you will just transfer the cost to another program, like Medicaid. It will cost the government a lot more. Whether the funds are derived from the federal or state government coffers, it all still comes out of taxpayer dollars. A fiscally prudent taxpayer wants to leverage these scarce funds as much as possible.

Let us be fiscally prudent; overall saving precious tax dollars, while we provide care for the neediest among us.

Support OPI. Even consider adding to the proposed budget amounts. It saves us precious taxpayer dollars!

onward... john

John Irwin  
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Rogue Community College

## Creating New Taxpayers

| <i>Recent RCC Graduates in Manufacturing Careers</i> |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| Graduates Tracked                                    | Combined Annual Income |
| 25 Students  | \$785,762              |

| <i>Recent RCC Graduates/Promotions in Electronic Careers</i> |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| Graduates Tracked  | Combined Annual Income |
| 36 Students  | \$1,646,320            |

| <i>Recent RCC Dental Assistant Graduates</i> |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| Graduates Tracked                            | Combined Annual Income |
| 13 Students                                  | \$331,760              |

| <i>Recent RCC Graduates in the Apprenticeship Programs</i> |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| Graduates Tracked  | Combined Annual Income |
| 65 Students  | \$2,719,309            |

| <i>Recent Completions - RCC Occupational Skills Training</i> |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| Graduates Tracked  | Combined Annual Income |
| 35 Students  | \$668,880              |

| <i>Recent Completions - RCC Career/Technical Education Programs</i> |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| Graduates Tracked   | Combined Annual Income |
| 7 Students  | \$243,942              |

| <i>Recent Completions - RCC Automotive Programs</i> |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| Graduates Tracked                                   | Combined Annual Income |
| 32 Students   | \$969,640              |

**Total Combined Annual Income: \$7,365,613**



Rogue Community College

*Creating New Taxpayers*

**Recent RCC Graduates in Manufacturing Careers**

| Graduate | Employer               | Wage Per Hour | Annual Salary |
|----------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Chuck    | Aviation Associates    | \$14.00       | \$29,120      |
| Michael  | Aviation Associates    | \$14.00       | \$29,120      |
| Craig    | Erickson Air-Crane     | \$18.00       | \$37,440      |
| Dannie   | Composite Bow Mfg.     | \$15.00       | \$31,200      |
| Dave     | Pacific Tool           | \$13.00       | \$27,040      |
| Dave     | Noveske                | \$14.00       | \$29,120      |
| Dave     | Rusco Construction     | \$12.00       | \$24,960      |
| Jason    | Boeing                 | \$24.00       | \$49,920      |
| Justin   | Brammo                 | \$14.00       | \$29,120      |
| Kevin    | Erickson Air-Crane     | \$19.00       | \$39,520      |
| Lonnie   | Cole Manufacturing     | \$13.00       | \$27,040      |
| Mark     | Not Disclosed          | \$16.00       | \$33,280      |
| Mike     | Erickson Air-Crane     | \$13.00       | \$27,040      |
| Shane    | Pacific Tool           | \$15.00       | \$31,200      |
| Tim      | Apex                   | \$13.00       | \$27,040      |
| Marvin   | Erickson Air-Crane     | \$18.50       | \$38,480      |
| Devan    | Erickson Air-Crane     | \$19.23       | \$39,998      |
| Gordon   | Aviation Associates    | \$12.00       | \$24,960      |
| Tim      | Oregon Swiss Precision | \$11.50       | \$23,920      |
| Kevin    | ECS Composites         | \$17.50       | \$36,400      |
| Dave     | Noveske Rifleworks     | \$14.00       | \$29,120      |
| Rene     | ICW USA                | \$12.00       | \$24,960      |
| Noah     | Not Disclosed          | \$11.00       | \$22,880      |
| Joel     | Aviation Associates    | \$11.00       | \$22,880      |
| Jason    | Boeing (Portland)      | \$24.04       | \$50,003      |

**25 Students**

**Combined Annual Income: \$785,762**

**Recent RCC Graduates/Promotions in Electronics Careers**

| Graduate    | Employer                    | Wage Per Hour | Annual Salary |
|-------------|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Chris       | Staples                     | \$12.00       | \$24,960      |
| Mark        | Met One Instruments         | \$24.00       | \$49,920      |
| Tim         | All Trax, Inc.              | \$32.00       | \$66,560      |
| Jason       | Grants Pass Water District  | \$38.00       | \$79,040      |
| Eric        | PP&L                        | \$26.00       | \$54,080      |
| Casey       | Marconi                     | \$32.00       | \$66,560      |
| Troy        | Wagner Electronics          | \$22.00       | \$45,760      |
| Patricia    | Asante                      | \$22.00       | \$45,760      |
| Mel         | Self-Employed               | \$44.00       | \$91,520      |
| Patricia    | U.S. Postal Service         | \$38.00       | \$79,040      |
| Jaclyn      | Self-Employed               | \$44.00       | \$91,520      |
| Shane       | Lighthouse                  | \$18.00       | \$37,440      |
| Tony        | Wagner Electronics          | \$24.00       | \$49,920      |
| Chris       | Linx Technologies           | \$36.00       | \$74,880      |
| Eric        | Lighthouse                  | \$18.00       | \$37,440      |
| Ben         | RCC                         | \$18.00       | \$37,440      |
| Stephen     | Ascentron                   | \$10.00       | \$20,800      |
| Alex        | Applied Lasers              | \$16.00       | \$33,280      |
| Jeff        | Tektronix                   | \$28.00       | \$58,240      |
| Sveta       | Hach Ultra Analytics        | \$24.00       | \$49,920      |
| Steve       | Met One Instruments         | \$18.00       | \$37,440      |
| Joe         | Charter Communication       | \$20.00       | \$41,600      |
| Jerold      | Bethel Church A/V           | \$17.35       | \$36,088      |
| Robert      | Lighthouse WW Solutions     | \$14.50       | \$30,160      |
| Robert      | Buchla - MV Pro Audio       | \$14.00       | \$29,120      |
| Tyler       | Staples                     | \$10.00       | \$20,800      |
| Joel        | Linx Technologies           | \$18.50       | \$38,480      |
| Ira         | Met One Instruments         | \$14.60       | \$30,368      |
| Rouben      | Ravensclaw, Inc.            | \$14.60       | \$30,368      |
| Chris       | Quality Electronics         | \$13.60       | \$28,288      |
| Christopher | Brammo Electric Motorcycles | \$14.75       | \$30,680      |
| Charlton    | Buchla - MV Pro Audio       | \$14.00       | \$29,120      |
| Alex        | Lighthouse WW Solutions     | \$14.60       | \$30,368      |
| Jared       | Ascentron                   | \$11.00       | \$22,880      |
| Thomas      | Avista                      | \$44.00       | \$91,520      |
| Dylan       | Linx Technologies           | \$12.00       | \$24,960      |

**36 Students**

**Combined Annual Income:**

**\$1,646,320**



***Creating New Taxpayers***

**Recent RCC Dental Assistant Graduates**

| Graduate    | Employer                      | Wage Per Hour | Annual Salary |
|-------------|-------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Student #1  | Orthodontist - Medford        | \$10.00       | \$20,800      |
| Student #2  | General Dentist - Grants Pass | \$11.75       | \$24,440      |
| Student #3  | Oral Surgeon - Medford        | \$12.00       | \$24,960      |
| Student #4  | General Dentist - Grants Pass | \$11.75       | \$24,440      |
| Student #5  | General Dentist - Grants Pass | \$11.00       | \$22,880      |
| Student #6  | General Dentist - Medford     | \$12.00       | \$24,960      |
| Student #7  | General Dentist - Grants Pass | \$14.00       | \$29,120      |
| Student #8  | General Dentist - Grants Pass | \$12.00       | \$24,960      |
| Student #9  | Orthodontist - Medford        | \$13.00       | \$27,040      |
| Student #10 | General Dentist - Medford     | \$13.00       | \$27,040      |
| Student #11 | General Dentist - Grants Pass | \$12.00       | \$24,960      |
| Student #12 | General Dentist - Phoenix     | \$13.50       | \$28,080      |
| Student #13 | Pediatric Dentist - Medford   | \$13.50       | \$28,080      |

**13 Students**

**Combined Annual Income:      \$331,760**





**RCC**  
Rogue Community College

***Creating New Taxpayers***

**Recent RCC Graduates in the Apprenticeship Program**

| Graduate            | Trade                           | Wage Per Hour | Annual Salary |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Total Students - 8  | Millwright                      | \$19.68       | \$327,475     |
| Total Students - 10 | Manufacturing Plant Electrician | \$21.11       | \$439,088     |
| Total Students - 5  | LTD Maintenance Electrician     | \$18.72       | \$194,688     |
| Total Students - 4  | Sheet Metal Worker              | \$19.88       | \$165,402     |
| Total Students - 12 | Inside Electrician              | \$22.63       | \$564,845     |
| Total Students - 8  | Boiler Operator                 | \$18.58       | \$309,171     |
| Total Students - 10 | HVAC/R                          | \$20.00       | \$416,000     |
| Total Students - 3  | Sign Electrician                | \$17.00       | \$106,080     |
| Total Students - 5  | Airframe & Power Plant Mechanic | \$18.90       | \$196,560     |

65 Students

**Combined Annual Income:      \$2,719,309**

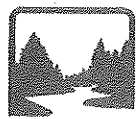
## Recent Completions - RCC Occupational Skills Training (OST)

| Graduate | Employer                            | Wage Per Hour | Annual Salary |
|----------|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Alan     | Valley View Nursery                 | \$10.00       | \$15,000      |
| Amy      | Medford Medical Clinic              | \$12.00       | \$16,800      |
| Annette  | Southern Oregon Cardiology          | \$11.50       | \$23,000      |
| Anthony  | Ray's Food Place                    | \$9.00        | \$18,000      |
| Barbara  | Evergreen Pharmacy                  | \$12.50       | \$25,000      |
| Cara     | Siskiyou Veterinary Hospital        | \$10.50       | \$21,000      |
| Carolyn  | Asante RPMC                         | \$13.49       | \$20,235      |
| Cathy    | Wellness Compounding Pharmacy       | \$14.50       | \$25,375      |
| Chasity  | Bear Creek Animal Hospital          | \$9.50        | \$9,500       |
| Claudia  | Bureau of Land Management           | \$19.95       | \$39,900      |
| Dale     | Napa Auto Parts                     | \$10.00       | \$20,000      |
| Daniel   | Providence Medford Medical Center   | \$13.00       | \$26,000      |
| Debbie   | Asante RPMC                         | \$12.05       | \$10,845      |
| Diana    | Avamere at Three Fountains          | \$10.50       | \$18,375      |
| Dorothy  | Animal Medical Clinic               | \$9.00        | \$18,000      |
| Gale     | Providence Medford Medical Center   | \$12.50       | \$25,000      |
| Jesse    | Rennie Law                          | \$13.00       | \$26,000      |
| Jo'el    | St. Charles Medical Center - Bend   | \$12.18       | \$10,962      |
| Joshua   | Foris Vineyards                     | \$10.00       | \$20,000      |
| Kaitlin  | Valley Verde Veterinary Clinic (AZ) | \$8.50        | \$8,500       |
| Kathleen | Paragon Orthopedic Center           | \$12.00       | \$24,000      |
| Kathy    | Eye Care Group                      | \$12.00       | \$24,000      |
| Kyndra   | Fred Meyer                          | \$12.35       | \$15,438      |
| Lacey    | Animal Medical Hospital             | \$10.50       | \$15,750      |
| Lauren   | Rogue Valley Humane Society         | \$14.00       | \$21,000      |
| Laurie   | Medford Women's Clinic              | \$12.00       | \$24,000      |
| Linda    | Aspire                              | \$9.30        | \$18,600      |
| Maria    | Southern Oregon Credit Service      | \$10.50       | \$10,500      |
| Mele     | People's Choice Acupuncture Center  | \$10.00       | \$10,500      |
| Michael  | Asante - Three Rivers               | \$12.54       | \$18,810      |
| Michael  | Providence Medford Medical Center   | \$13.18       | \$26,360      |
| Nikki    | Estate Planning Group               | \$10.84       | \$21,680      |
| Patti    | Evergreen Pharmacy                  | \$10.00       | \$10,000      |
| Rochelle | Southern Oregon Audiology           | \$11.50       | \$17,250      |
| Shaena   | Rogue Valley Humane Society         | \$9.00        | \$13,500      |

35 Students

**Combined Annual Income: \$668,880**

OST is a state approved, one-year certificate program that combines general education classes (4-7 courses), career-related coursework and worksite learning. Students develop a network of professional contacts that might lead to full-time, generally entry-level, job opportunities after graduation from the program.



# RCC

Rogue Community College

***Creating New Taxpayers***

**Recent Completions - RCC Career/Technical Education Programs**

| Graduate   | Employer                      | Wage Per Hour | Annual Salary |
|------------|-------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Ryan       | Cummins                       | \$17.31       | \$36,005      |
| Rusty      | AMR Grants Pass               | \$24.51       | \$50,981      |
| April      | Pharmacy Computer Services    | \$13.50       | \$28,080      |
| Ginger     | Pharmacy Computer Services    | \$13.50       | \$28,080      |
| Student #5 | DSU - Peterbilt               | \$15.00       | \$31,200      |
| Student #6 | Tech Equipment - Volvo        | \$15.00       | \$31,200      |
| Student #7 | Seven Feathers River Rock Spa | \$18.46       | \$38,397      |

**7 Students**

**Combined Annual Income:      \$243,942**

**Recent Completions - RCC Automotive Programs**

| Graduate | Employer                         | Wage Per Hour | Annual Salary |
|----------|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Devon    | Lahaina Foreign Car              | \$25.00       | \$52,000      |
| Joe      | Daves Automotive                 | \$14.00       | \$29,120      |
| Terry    | Tom Denchel Ford                 | \$16.00       | \$33,280      |
| Brian    | Jim Sigel Automotive             | \$13.00       | \$27,400      |
| Todd     | Lithia Dodge                     | \$14.00       | \$29,120      |
| Noah     | The Shop (Ashland)               | \$16.00       | \$33,280      |
| Sean     | Crater Lake Motors               | \$14.00       | \$29,120      |
| Robert   | On The Spot Auto Repair          | \$15.00       | \$31,200      |
| Robert   | Mock Ford                        | \$15.00       | \$31,200      |
| Lisa     | Butler Hyundai                   | \$14.00       | \$29,120      |
| Gene     | Daves Automotive                 | \$12.00       | \$24,960      |
| Mario    | Wentworth Subaru                 | \$18.00       | \$37,440      |
| Ryan     | Toms Automotive                  | \$10.00       | \$20,800      |
| Austin   | Jim Sigel Automotive             | \$18.00       | \$37,440      |
| Zack     | Bridge Street Automotive, School | \$15.00       | \$31,200      |
| Larry    | K&B Autoplex                     | \$16.00       | \$33,280      |
| Scott    | Petro Diesel Truck Repair        | \$12.00       | \$24,960      |
| Jonathon | Bob Thomas Automotive            | \$14.00       | \$29,120      |
| Kevin    | Bridge Street Auto Repair        | \$10.00       | \$20,800      |
| Sam      | Auto Zone                        | \$9.00        | \$18,720      |
| Omar     | Lithia Honda                     | \$18.00       | \$37,440      |
| Jesse    | Lithia Dodge                     | \$14.00       | \$29,120      |
| Buddy    | Rogue Automotive (Owner)         | \$22.00       | \$45,760      |
| Carlos   | Automotive, Shop Owner           | \$12.00       | \$24,960      |
| Daniel   | Bridge Street Automotive         | \$12.00       | \$24,960      |
| Eric     | Bob Thomas Automotive            | \$14.00       | \$29,120      |
| Andy     | Mock Ford                        | \$14.00       | \$29,120      |
| Paul     | Lithia Dodge                     | \$16.00       | \$33,280      |
| Jonathon | Roe Motors                       | \$16.00       | \$33,280      |
| Justin   | Wheeler Toyota                   | \$14.00       | \$29,120      |
| Cory     | Jim Sigel Chevrolet              | \$12.00       | \$24,960      |
| Lindsey  | Valley Restoration               | \$12.00       | \$24,960      |

**32 Students**

**Combined Annual Income: \$969,640**

Greetings,

I am sending electronically the testimony I provided at the Ways and Means Hearing yesterday in Ashland at the SOC Music Recital Hall. Thank you for providing the forum for citizens to offer feedback on budget priorities.

**Testimony for Oregon Ways and Means Committee Hearing  
Ashland, Oregon/SOU Music Hall  
April 13, 2013**

My name is Susan Miler and I live in Jacksonville, Oregon. I serve on the Senior Advisory Council of RVCOG Senior and Disability Services.

I am here today to urge that you not sacrifice services to older persons and those with disabilities in the proposed budget, but rather that you restore them to previous levels, particularly the \$12.6 million dollar level for Oregon Project Independence. Oregon has done a remarkable job of developing cost-effective services and supports for keeping people in their homes rather than in much more expensive nursing care facilities. These services, including OPI, cost a fraction—10%—of what the state's portion of Medicaid-funded nursing home care would be, and represent a wise investment to support those individuals.

I am a volunteer for home-delivered meals in Jackson County and each week I see, first-hand, elders and people with disabilities who are living on minimal resources, in settings where they strive to maintain their independence and dignity. Although some have family members nearby who are helping with caregiving and support, those family members are generally working and raising their own families, and they are challenged in juggling responsibilities of work and family. As in most states, family members in Oregon do the vast majority of caregiving, but without good services and supports to those at risk and their caregivers, that network of family care can break down, with far greater costs down the road.

I have been a caregiver myself and am acutely aware that those duties can result in loss of income and job advancement opportunities during the caregiving years. By preserving adequate funding for services to seniors and people with disabilities, we can continue to make our effective system work to the benefit of all.

I understand that you have a difficult job to do with the budget, and that you have tough choices to make. So I wish you well as you conduct these hearings and your deliberations. I appreciate the opportunity to comment today, and commend you for your leadership and your service to the citizens of our state.

Susan Miler  
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Jacksonville, OR 97530  
[samiler17@gmail.com](mailto:samiler17@gmail.com)  
(c) 301-452-4440



**JACKSON  
COUNTY**  
Oregon

**JACKSON COUNTY JUSTICE COURT**

505 OAK STREET CENTRAL POINT, OREGON 97502

Phone: (541) 774-1286

Fax: (541) 774-1288

Jackson County Justice of the Peace Joe Charter

April 13, 2013

Oregon House Joint Ways & Means Committee  
Southern Oregon University  
Music Recital Hall  
1250 Siskiyou Blvd  
Ashland, OR 97520

Re: House Bill 2857; Senate Bill 180

Co-Chairs and Members of the Committee:

I am the Jackson County Justice of the Peace and the President of the Oregon Justice of the Peace Association (OJPA). Thirty two Justices of the Peace around the State provide local access to justice by handling criminal misdemeanors, traffic violations, landlord/tenant, and small claims matters, relieving State Circuit Courts of significant case loads.

As you know, HB 2712, enacted in the last legislative session, increased the State's take of revenue to \$60 per citation in criminal and violations actions. Under this law, local governments do not receive *any* court revenues until the State's priority payment is paid in full. As a result, in 2012 Jackson County Justice Court suffered its worst revenue year in the last five. The State's take from each citation written by Sheriff Deputies has doubled, and the State's take has tripled on violations written by State officers (such as OSP and ODOT).

Earlier this week, House Bill 2857 passed the House Judiciary Committee with a unanimous "do pass" recommendation. That bill, and Senate Bill 180, which will be heard in the Senate Judiciary Committee on April 17, 213, would return the fine distribution structure to how it existed prior to 2012.

The Jackson County Justice Court contributes some \$545,000 in revenues to the State each year at no cost to the State. In addition, Jackson County is required by law to maintain and provide for State Circuit Court facilities in the County. The Jackson County Budget Committee has indicated that unless the effects of HB 2712 are undone in this legislative session, the County will close the Justice Court effective July 1, 2013.

Although many speakers at the hearing today come with the hands out for increased or continued funding for what are undeniably important and critical programs, I am simply asking

that you fix what may have been the unintended consequences of 2011 legislation so that my program, and more than a hundred Justice and Municipal Courts around the state, can continue to send millions of dollars of fine revenue to the State.

**OJPA strongly supports HB 2857 and SB 180.** It is important that the law eventually passed include a provision to **restore parity** so that the State and local jurisdictions share equally in fine distributions. This would recognize that the Counties are equal partners with the State in enhancing public safety, local law enforcement, and administration of justice.

Very truly yours,

/s/Joseph M. Charter

Jackson County Justice of the Peace

President, Oregon Justice of the Peace Association



April 10, 2013

**RE: Support for Funding for Seniors and the Disabled**

Dear Representative Buckley and Senator Devlin:

It is at times like these that require tough budgetary choices that your willingness to serve as an Oregon legislator is so very appreciated. I applaud the care and transparency with which you are weighing trade offs between programs that support your various constituencies and the appropriate recommendations you have made to increase revenues to avoid even deeper cuts. However, I am concerned at the limited focus on the funding needs of seniors and the disabled. Please consider these points:

- **Support for critical services to seniors and the disabled does not benefit only these groups.** These vulnerable individuals are part of *families*. Support for them benefits the working adults who serve as their caregivers or care managers, as well as the dependent children of these caregivers.
- **Appropriate program support has a positive impact on the revenue side of Oregon finances.** It helps caregivers continue to work at a level that optimizes their taxable income and their productivity; the latter has a trickle down impact on the taxable income of their employers.
- **Appropriate funding will maintain and could even improve the cost-effective structure of Oregon's long-term care programs** – the envy of other States -- at a time when the demand for long-term care services is besieged by the onslaught of aging baby boomers. Long-term care programs have already experienced the impact of previous funding cuts. Further cuts now to programs like Oregon Project Independence and other home- and community-based options will only increase costs later. Seniors and the disabled who are not adequately supported and competently managed by paid case managers or trained family caregivers will become high utilizers of much more expensive services and residential care options.
- **What you decide will likely affect you personally.** If you do not already have a loved one who is one of these vulnerable individuals, and if you don't die early, you may very well need the services that are under consideration. What would *you* want?

Thank you for your service to Oregonians.

Sincerely,



Anne Bellegia

Testimony on ODSVS (SB 5018, Department of Justice budget) Submitted to the Ways and Means  
Committee in Ashland, OR April 13, 2013

My name is Noel Day and I'm a survivor of DV/SA and I work with the co-located advocate, Cynthia Nehf from WCST and I am a resident of Grants Pass. I am here to ask you to increase the Oregon Domestic and Sexual Violence Services Fund (ODSVS).

I Noel Day, am writing this letter to explain how seriously helpful the Co-Located advocates have been to me. Without WCST, I was left feeling hopeless and almost did not make it through this time.

I was a victim of domestic violence by the father of my two sons. My perpetrator pushed me through a glass coffee table. The glass broke and it shattered which caused my arms to bleed. Our son was present. I was able to get up and call the police to report the incident. The police came, found him hiding under our bed-naked and arrested him. He conned me into lying for him and the case was dropped. When child welfare came to investigate, they did not screen me for domestic violence but asked me how I received the injuries. I hid the truth because I needed help with the mortgage, and that I could help him. He said he was sorry. The caseworker said she believed he was the one who hurt me because I could not have hurt myself looking at my injuries and how they occurred. She found him guilty for harming me in front of our children. She left.

We got back together. He paid the mortgage until I could figure out what to do. The cycle continued. After that his daughter moved in with us and then I started seeing signs of molestation from her. We formed a bond and one day she told me, she said, "Yes mommy he is doing it and I don't like it." She went into more detail. I reported it to the police. They told me to take her to the Children's Advocacy Center. There they said I coached her and we went back home. The police called me to tell me I had to either return her to her dad or her mom as I was not the bio parent. I took her to her mother. I explained to her mom what she told me. She did not want me to leave her there as her mom's boyfriend was also molesting her. She cried and screamed not to leave her. I bought her a lock for bedroom door that she could use from the inside. I will never forget her crying and saying, "Don't leave me here mommy," I had taken care of her since she was 4 till about 7 years old.

I kicked him out of my home and filed for a restraining order which was granted. He violated it several times. One of these times, I caught him peeking in my window, I called the police, he took off running and slipped and fell over a brick wall I had around my rose bushes. The cops came and found a big bladed knife in my flower bed.

I did not go back to him. I decided to file custody for my boys. I got an attorney through legal aid and we devised a parenting plan. In order for him to have any parenting time, it was stipulated that he would have no parenting time until he put his daughter through counseling to show proof that he did not cause sex abuse to his daughter. I also put in the custody paperwork that in order to visit the boys he would have to have me present during visits. This was done because he said he didn't sexually abuse her but I knew differently. He never followed through.

I was granted custody. He called me consciously and not once did he ask about the boys. He just wanted to talk about us. I told him that if he called me one more time not asking about the boys, showed care and concern for them but just wanted to talk about us that I would never speak to him again.

When my step-daughter's mom got busted for drugs and sent to jail, I found out she would be placed with her dad I knew DHS-CW would place her with her dad so I called child welfare and shared my story with them. I told them about the custody papers and what I had stipulated and that he never followed through and that he was a danger and to not place his daughter with him. I volunteered to be a resource. They placed her with him anyways. She was about 7 or 8.

I was having a hard time knowing what was happening with her at her dad's, I had very little child support, the mortgage was not being paid, I was trying to pay the bills and survive. I began soliciting myself for money through "I Candy Adult Entertainment Services". I got caught by the police who were doing a sting. My van was parked around the corner of a local motel where my sister was in my van babysitting my kids. I had no other ways to pay my bills and told both DHS and the police this. They said that if I was honest with them about how the operation works how "I Candy" works, who the boss was and why I was doing it, then they said they wouldn't have DHS-CW take my kids and I wouldn't go to jail.

First the police tried to do a money transaction with my boss which required the police driving me to where she was. As soon as she saw me in my car and someone riding with me, she left. The police were upset and told me I had to help them do a bust or that my children would be taken into custody and that I would go to jail. So we drove back to the hotel and they set me up with a wire and a code word. The police fed my children and sister and put them in a hotel room for the night. They told me I could be with my children after the sting was done.

The police had me go through my list of people I knew. I phoned the owner of "The Red Carpet Inn" and set up a time. It was not even an hour later. I was in the room waiting for him and the police wanted me to get him instantly into a sexual act. I was to say, "Your dick is so hard." After he started undressing, I ran my hand across his penis, I then I said the code words and the police were knocking on the door. My life could've been in danger. The police kept knocking on the door. He finally answered but I could've been harmed.

They took me to where the kids were and my car and told me to not ever work for "I Candy" again. The police did tell me that escorting and meth go hand in hand and to stay away from it.

Then I quit working for "I Candy" but still needed to survive so I worked independently. It paid the bills. I wanted to stay home with my kids and breastfeed my second son. After he was almost two, I wanted to quit doing what I was doing and get a full time job. I now could work a full time job. I began working at Stop and Go by my house. I had troubles with girls there. I had a few jobs that weren't working out. I started drinking in the beginning. A neighbor brought over meth and I was able to get a lot of things done. I was depressed and decided to numb out. It took hold of me. This lasted 3 months. My little sister moved out. I didn't have help with the kids any more. The housework, the bills, the stress of it all was too much. I was hoping to get the stimulus loan the President was offering as I was behind several thousand.

I couldn't afford to pay the mortgage any longer so I rented out my house. I stayed with family to get through the hard times. I went back to check on the house as the renters were a month and a half late and damage was being done to my house. I found a hole in the door, house not taken care of, lawn was dead. I left messages on the door, there were no responses. I came back to the home another day. I was upset I was being ignored and so I knocked on the door. The woman renting my house yelled and grabbed me by the neck. I put my hand out to push her away from me and her nails dug into my neck leaving scrapes that the police took pictures of. I was defending myself. The police tried to charge me with an assault but dropped it due to the evidence.

I got a notice to vacate the renters from my home. I stayed in a trailer on my property to fix the house after the renters left. DHS-CW came to my front door with the police. They said they were investigating a fight in front of the children with somebody on my property. They wanted a UA. I knew I was dirty and was scared. I wasn't honest with the UA. DHS-CW took my kids and the police handcuffed me. My kids were screaming. They said I wasn't under arrest but were taking my boys into custody. I would need to contact DHS-CW in the morning to see what was going to happen next. When I called DHS in the morning, I was told to attend a shelter hearing I attended.

I was in my addiction. I faked UA's and was told by the judge to get into treatment. I did. I went to On-Track. They were rude to me and not nice. They treated me bad and were negative. My uncle paid \$3500.00 for an attorney because I didn't trust Child Welfare and I figured their attorneys were in cohorts with them. My attorney was Bob Good out of Ashland, and he and I found a treatment center where I could take my boys. I was accepted, they had me tested for TB and so we had it all drawn up. So I took this information into my next court hearing. DHS stood against it. They didn't think it was a good idea. The judge sided with them. I continued with On-Track.

My boys were in foster care. They were giving the boys visits and overrode my custody requirements. I was seeing the kids at DHS in Medford and the boys told me they had been seeing a guy who told them he was their daddy. I was scared for my boys because it was court ordered that he do counseling before any parenting time.

I was still attending On-Track and yet didn't feel supported there and felt that they were against me and not there to support me. I quit and enrolled into The Ark immediately, that day. I completed treatment successfully. I was very happy there. I turned my certificate into DHS after completing treatment and found out that day they were going to place my boys with their dad. I was devastated! That's what sent me over the edge. I went deep into drinking and drugging. I met a man that was involved deeper than I ever got into with drugs and he got me deeper into drugs. He got arrested and became an informant for the police and I was turned in at some point. I was arrested and held me over night. I was released and my boyfriend picked me up. DHS closed my case with their dad having custody. In order to spend time with my kids, their dad said that if I slept with him I could take them with me. DHS was unaware. My boys ages 5 & 7 told me their dad had been touching them and gave details. I went straight to my dad's with my boys and the boys told my dad and Peter Wise, a Reverend, and counselor about the abuse. Peter made a report to law enforcement. So we waited for instruction all the while I kept my boys and didn't take them back to their dads. I did not hear back from law enforcement and felt they let it go to

long so I went with Joshua Bealand to Eugene and I took the boys to the hospital to have them evaluated. There was nothing they could do as there were no marks as it had been too long. I stayed in Eugene and we were safe. Joshua's family helped us. I thought getting help from another County would help us. So I got into contact with Enda Pierce investigator in Grants Pass but she put me through to a guy in Eugene. He met me at the advocacy Center in Eugene. They interviewed the boys. I was told to take the boys to take the boys to DHS in Eugene. After talking with a guy caseworker, he said Medford DHS said I wasn't ok to have my boys in my care. He said Medford DHS figured they needed to take the boys into custody for fear I would be coaching them. He let us spend some time together. That DHS caseworker supported my boys staying with me and said "it was the hardest case trying to pull the kids off their mother". I was in an interrogation room while my boys were with the detectives. I was told the boys made full disclosures but the detective told me he wasn't positive that I didn't coach them.

DHS-CW brought the kids back to Grants Pass and I followed. When I arrived, DHS set up visits at Family Sense and by about the second visit I was told the boys would be going back to their dad's. I lost it again. I had the meth charge pending so I still had the opportunity to work with the police dept. in Medford to get the charge dropped by working as an informant. Donnie wanted me to hang out at a drug house and say I had a rich boyfriend that can buy as much dope as you want and they will believe it. Donnie Adams met me at the YMCA parking lot to fill out informant papers so I would not get the felony charge and to stay out of jail. I didn't want to lose time with my boys so I signed all the paper work. I took my trailer to Chinook RV Park because it was closer to my boys and Donne agreed because there was a guy that was dealing drugs there. I went over, the park manager told me to not go over there as he was just busted. I didn't believe it because I was supposed to be the one to get the information to get him busted. I went over there because I didn't know what the park manager was talking about. I had been drinking and wanted to go get high. So I entered the trailer, gave him the money and he shot me up with something that wasn't meth. I took off out the trailer as soon as I started to feel differently. I almost passed out after running and him and another guy chased me. I ran to the edge of the water, a cliff and said if you don't stop chasing me I will jump. They kept coming towards me so I jumped. I fractured my face bone and had a concussion, hemorrhaged bleeding from the brain and broke my hip. The ambulance came and got me to the hospital. I was rushed to Sacred Heart hospital for surgery.

I went home to my dad's. I wasn't able to see my boys as I was injured. I was now looking at a failure to appear so I had to come into town to do 10 days in jail and so I did it in Medford as well as 10 days work crew. I went through 18 months being on probation. I put myself into Choices treatment center and counseling. I was not asked to seek services. Clair Sierra, the therapist wrote a letter to DHS and the judge saying I needed reunification with my boys and that I was having severe anxiety and depression being away from my boys. Clair supported my sobriety and told me not to sleep with that sicko to see your boys. DHS closed the case out with no visits. Clair told me to file it with the courts. That's when the judge took into consideration all I had been through and the allegations of the dad. Peter Wise testified in the court to what the boys told him about being sexually abused by their dad, that I am a good mother, and the hard worker, and that I was suffering badly due to the children being with their father and not having proper instruction with dealing with all I have been through. This is all in the court's records. The judge said the sex abuse was hearsay but he told their dad, that I could have visits at Family

Sense for 1 hour a week but in a few months it will go to 3 hours a week. Then I could file for unsupervised parenting time. I stayed clean and sober, stayed out of trouble and so I put in a motion for custody. He didn't respond and so the judge issued me standard parenting time. The boys' dad didn't comply with the judge's orders so I had to file a reinforcement of parenting plan. We went before the judge and the judge reinforced the plan. I had them for Christmas time. The boys disclosed sexual abuse again and I hired an attorney, Wendy Lovey. She directed me to go to through Law Enforcement, and report it with DHS. DHS got the boys an appointment with the Advocacy Center about a week later. Jamie Smith showed up at the Advocacy Center and said, "don't be surprised if I call you and tell you to bring the boys into custody. I started crying and she said, "you shouldn't be surprised because of your past". They questioned me about what the boys told me. I told DHS-CW that if they would have believed me when I had brought about the sex abuse I would never have dove off the deep end.

They said it's hard to help the young girl because all she said was that she had been molested and cried. The boys disclosed, I took them home and about a week later Jamie wanted to interview the boys one more time. I assured the boys DHS wouldn't take them into care but wanted to talk to them so we walked into DHS. Jamie took the boys into another room and left me with Allison and Jim P and that's when I was told the boys would be taken into custody. I was told my mental stability was affecting the boys and that I needed to stay calm for my baby and my boys. I stayed calm.

Now the boys are placed in foster care. The assessment has been going on since February.

Thank you,

Noel Day 

**Testimony on ODSVS (SB 5018, Department of Justice budget)**  
Submitted to the Ways and Means Committee in City, OR  
Date, 2013

By Julie Bezilla

Good morning. My name is Julie and I'm a survivor working with Cynthia Nehf at Women's Crisis Support Team who is a co-located advocate and I am a resident of Grants Pass. I am asking you to increase the Oregon Domestic and Sexual Violence Services Fund (ODSVS).

My husband is verbally, mentally and physically abusive to me. We have been married over 20 years and just recently our two minor children were placed in foster care. Even though I have a current restraining order, my husband continues to stalk and harass me. Because my home isn't safe from him, our children are in foster care. I was referred by a DHS-CW caseworker to meet with Cynthia Nehf. She gave me a packet and asked me some questions. Then I began attending her support group, she went to court with me, met with me one on one and has been there for me when I call.

If I didn't have a co-located advocate working with me, I would be totally alone in this journey. Cynthia's been a big help for me. I don't know what to do. Having the support helps a lot. I want my kids back and I don't know what it is DHS-CW wants from me. So having the support has been wonderful. I feel like I am being punished for what he is not doing. I have been told by DHS-CW that I am too emotional to deal with this. I need advocacy!

Without Cynthia, I could not have gotten as far as I have gotten. I am emotionally exhausted to do this alone.

Thank you.

Julie Bezilla

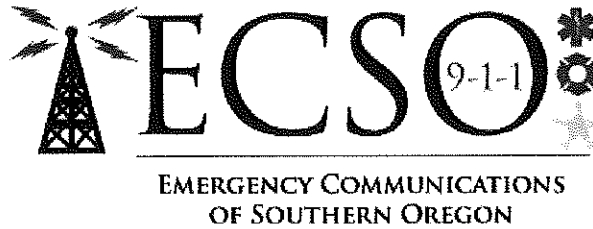
Apr. 12  
2013

I give Cynthia permission to disclose this info in any way that could be helpful to the many women who need people like her to obtain the support needed to mend the brokenness inside & out.

My name is Misty Perrell Dawson. I live in Grants Pass Oregon and I have the privilege of working with Cynthia who is an awesome advocate for myself (and I'm sure many other survivors) her presence in my life and my CR case is irreplaceable! I'm a former Ward Of The Court of California due to my mother's abuse of crack cocaine and later on her inability to protect me not only from the sexual abuse of my father @ 2 yrs old but the sexual, physical & emotional abuse of her boyfriend @ age 8 during a 30 day home trial visit. At that time her boyfriend broke my jaw w/ a shovel and from then on (after my recovery) we were only allowed supervised visits and phone calls. We did not have the legal we do now so I was considered a (Permanent Placement) child from then on. So coming from a severely abused childhood. I grew into a woman who would seek one abusive relationship after another. I became a mother @ 16 years old, 2 kids



Before I was 18, a third child 22 days before my 21st birthday and had my fourth child @ 29 years of age. I'm now 32 years old and have just got back my 3 1/2 yr old daughter Miracle. Miracle is so important in my life. She helps me and others like me to love ourselves again and to be able to parent our children & do what ORTGEN CSD is supposed to do and Strengthen families. If there weren't people like her unfortunately I don't believe w/ the aggressive and sometimes very intimidating tactics instead of procedure that some women would ever be able to come for help or have their kids returned to them after whatever abuse they've already endured. The last thing they need is an aggressive male or unfailing un-reliant or a pathetic woman to basically attack them without any witnesses or advocates. Until I had numerous people involved in my case I almost gave up.



## **Emergency Communications of Southern Oregon supports "Aye" vote on HB 3317 – A**

Emergency Communications of Southern Oregon is the 9-1-1 communication center for Jackson County and Crater Lake National Park serving all police, fire/EMS public safety agencies in the County. We urge you to help us by supporting HB 3317-A which appropriately deals with two issues critical to 9-1-1 communication centers around the state of Oregon. As written the bill does the following;

1. Extends the existing 9-1-1 tax until 12/31/21 (the existing tax is estimated to generate approximately \$79 million biennially; \$57.7 million of that is expected to be distributed to cities and counties).
2. Requires carriers (including prepaid) to remit the tax to the Department of Revenue; this means that the carriers will remit the tax, it will not be collected at point of sale (initial estimates between non- point of sale and point of sale collection methods netted \$1.9 million vs. \$200,000 respectively, therefore a majority of the Revenue Committee members elected to add a non-point of sale prepaid tax collection method to the bill). An additional \$1.9 million is anticipated to be collected in 2015-17 as a result of the requirement that carriers remit the tax on prepaid devices.
3. Increases the current .5% allocated from the tax to the Department of Revenue for administration of the tax to .75% to fund additional collection and enforcement of the tax (this extra quarter percent will fund additional enforcement of collection of the tax). DOR assumes a startup date for the enhanced enforcement program of October 1, 2013. DOR anticipates the need for additional staff in order to implement the bill. The total additional cost to DOR is \$203,194 in 2013-15 and \$272,002 in 2015-17.
4. Requires DOR to report on a quarterly basis to the legislative committee on revenue regarding implementation of the enhanced enforcement and collection efforts (the first report is due on or before February 15, 2014).
5. Provides a clear definition of VOIP in the statute and clarifies VOIP is subject to the 9-1-1 tax.

You will be pressured by the wireless industry to change the pre-paid collection to a point of sale method of collection. If we were a sales tax state, point of sale would make the most sense, but we are not. Department of Revenue estimates show that the majority of revenue gained from this approach would be taken for set up and management of a point of sale system.

HB 3317-A was moved out of the House Revenue committee to the House Ways and Means Committee. We need this bill to move forward as written as it provides the most revenue to the local 9-1-1 communications center. Your support of this bill is critical to your local 9-1-1 communications center and other centers across the State.

Margie Moulin, RPL  
Director, ECSO  
541-774-5061  
[Margie.Moulin@ecso911.com](mailto:Margie.Moulin@ecso911.com)

**Joint Ways and Means Committee  
Ashland, Oregon  
April 13, 2013  
Testimony on behalf of the  
Oregon State Bar**

I am appearing on behalf of the members of the Oregon State Bar to advocate for adequate funding for the courts, low income legal services and indigent defense, the bar's three budget priorities for the 2013 legislative session:

Provide adequate support for the Oregon Judicial Department.

- Fund the department sufficiently to keep courts fully operational during business hours, five days a week, and provide funds to hire back staff lost over the last two biennia. Hiring back staff will enable courts to meet basic time lines in case disposition and public safety.
- Continue funding for Oregon eCourt, the department's ongoing project to make courts more efficient and to increase access to information.
- Fund the additional three judge panel of the Court of Appeals that was authorized in the 2012 session.
- Address judicial compensation. Oregon's judges are among the lowest paid in the nation.

Support for legal services for low income people.

- Maintain current funding levels derived from state court filing fees that support legal services.
- Use interest on certain pooled escrow accounts to provide additional funds for legal services.
- Establish a 50 percent tax credit for donations to the Campaign for Equal Justice, a private non-profit that raises funds to support legal services.

Support adequate funding for indigent defense services in criminal cases – a crucial part of the public safety system.

- Ensure fair compensation for publicly funded attorneys in the criminal and juvenile justice systems.
- Reduce caseloads for attorneys representing parents and children.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Peterson

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Adam Peterson

Ways and Means Committee.  
Governor's Budget  
State Of Oregon

Edward Alcantar  
1144 NE Quail Crossing  
Grants Pass, Or. 97526  
4/10/2013

Dear Sirs and Madams;

I first want to thank you for the work and efforts you have invested in our interest. Your strong community spirit and your indulgence in allowing us to participate in our wants and needs. I don't envy your position. but I like to feel that we have the right people to listen to us and make fair decisions.

I am an 85 year old Korean war veteran and have been involved in Senior issues for 20 years via AARP and the Rogue Valley Council of Governments. I know and understand that a pie can only be cut so many ways, but I also know that the loudest squeek gets the grease. I am also cognizant of the fact that my generation of people are old school, "Don't air your personal needs publicly". As the English say " Keep a stiff upper lip". Well that is where I differ, I need to voice my angst, when the cart gets off balance. I personally owe to my peers to serve as a voice for them. Coming from an ethnic minority (Hispanic), our schools have told me that I have a voice, and if I don't use it, no body will hear me. In my years of volunteering I have gone into many homes where the elderly have been marginalized to the point that they feel they haven't a right to "Ask"... Well I can assure you that there are some of us that do "Ask". We have given much to this country, in blood, sweat and tears. So I make it my duty to "Ask". "Don't fore sake us !".. Don't send us to the back of the line. Many of us don't have strong voices any more, but like when one reads tree rings, you can see it in our slow walk, our weathered hands and faces. We served you. Now, serve us.! Keep "OPI fluid" ...../

Respectfully Submitted.

Edward Rosenstock Alcantar

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**From:** Beth Williams <cvrbeth@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2013 1:02 PM

**Subject:** 2013 Co Chairs Budget comment

Public Comment

As a member of the Senior Advisory Council [SAC] of the Rogue Valley Council of Governments [RVCOG] I have concerns that our attempts to control state budget spending may cost us much more in the short term and long term than is recognized: in particular Oregon Project Independence [OPI] has suffered years of flat funding, effectively incurring cost of living cuts. OPI is a national model of success. When something works so well, it makes no sense to undercut it for short term gains. OPI saves the state millions of dollars in more expensive care options. Please restore it to the previous level of \$12.6 million. Note that overextended care givers and receivers are likely to cost employer productivity far in excess of any short term savings. The net reduction in taxable income would compound the current budget problems in the future.

I believe hijacking the K-waiver funds by substitution would be unethical.

I feel you are tasked with continuing your efforts to locate additional funding for all social services, especially those that relate to our most vulnerable aging population and people with disabilities. Vulnerable populations should not be pitted against youth education. Both are equally important elements of civilized society. Both must be prioritized, not placed in competition. Resources can be enhanced. I hope you will continue with those efforts.

Mae Beth Williams

RVCOG SAC board member

04/10/2013

Beth Williams, [cvrbeth@gmail.com](mailto:cvrbeth@gmail.com)  
205 Southridge Way, Grants Pass, OR 97527  
cell 541.660.4183

Thou Shalt not be a victim. Thou shalt not be a perpetrator. Above all, thou shalt not be a bystander.

April 10, 2013

**RE: Support for Funding for Seniors and the Disabled**

Dear Representative Buckley and Senator Devlin:

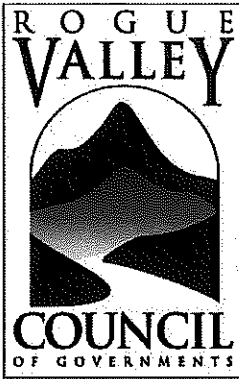
It is at times like these that require tough budgetary choices that your willingness to serve as an Oregon legislator is so very appreciated. I applaud the care and transparency with which you are weighing trade offs between programs that support your various constituencies and the appropriate recommendations you have made to increase revenues to avoid even deeper cuts. However, I am concerned at the limited focus on the funding needs of seniors and the disabled. Please consider these points:

- **Support for critical services to seniors and the disabled does not benefit only these groups.** These vulnerable individuals are part of *families*. Support for them benefits the working adults who serve as their caregivers or care managers, as well as the dependent children of these caregivers.
- **Appropriate program support has a positive impact on the revenue side of Oregon finances.** It helps caregivers continue to work at a level that optimizes their taxable income and their productivity; the latter of which has a trickle down impact on the taxable income of their employers.
- **Appropriate funding will maintain and could even improve the cost-effective structure of Oregon's long-term care programs** – the envy of other States -- at a time when the demand for long-term care services is besieged by the onslaught of aging baby boomers. Long-term care programs have already experienced the impact of previous funding cuts. Further cuts now to programs like Oregon Project Independence and other home- and community-based options will only increase costs later. Seniors and the disabled who are not adequately supported and competently managed by paid case managers or trained family caregivers will become high utilizers of much more expensive services and residential care options.
- **What you decide will likely affect you personally.** If you do not already have a loved one who is one of these vulnerable individuals, and if you don't die early, you may very well need the services that are under consideration. What would you want?

Thank you for your service to Oregonians.

Sincerely,





Administration Office

# Rogue Valley Council of Governments

(541) 664-6674 • FAX (541) 664-7927 • [www.rvcog.org](http://www.rvcog.org)

## Rogue Valley Council of Governments supports "Aye" vote on HB 3317-A

*The Rogue Valley Council of Governments is a voluntary association of these local governments and special districts in our region:*

Jackson County  
Josephine County  
City of Ashland  
Town of Butte Falls  
City of Cave Junction  
City of Central Point  
City of Eagle Point  
City of Gold Hill  
City of Grants Pass  
City of Jacksonville  
City of Medford  
City of Phoenix  
City of Rogue River  
City of Shady Cove  
City of Talent  
Emergency Communications of Southern Oregon (ECSO)  
Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District  
Rogue Community College (RCC)  
Rogue Valley Sewer Services (RVS)  
Rogue Valley Transportation District (RVTD)  
Southern Oregon Regional Economic Development, Inc. (SORED)  
Southern Oregon University (SOU)

On behalf of its 22 member cities, counties, and special districts, the Board of Directors of the Rogue Valley Council of Governments would like to state its emphatic and unequivocal support for HB 3317-A and any other legislation proposed this session that contributes to the continued financial viability of the public safety answering points (PSAPs), and of the 911 system itself.

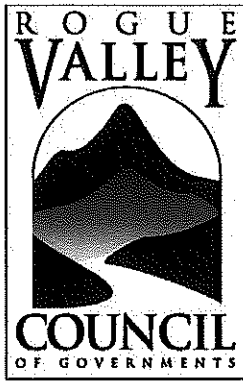
First and foremost, the Board urges the extension of the current Emergency Communications Tax, as well as its expansion to include all devices with access to the 911 emergency reporting system. Since the popularity of prepaid mobile phones has a great deal to do with the fact that the public is comfortable with being able to use them to contact public safety officers or first responders, it is clearly justifiable that providers in turn support the service.

In addition, the Board considers it critical that the funds collected for 911 emergency services remain dedicated to those emergency services. Without exception, the Board considers any diversion of 911 taxes to be unacceptable public policy. While there is no doubt that governmental entities and their services are under unprecedented financial stress, something as fundamental to our society as the 911 system must remain whole.

Finally, the Board supports PSAP consolidation where and when it makes financial sense and is promoted and supported at the local level. As a regional entity, the Rogue Valley Council of Governments is often involved in a consideration of the merits of regionalized service delivery models, and understands the complexities involved in adjusting those service models. In our experience, the one consistently important factor in a positive outcome for any such process is meaningful local decision-making. While we would encourage the State's participation in potential PSAP consolidation, final decision-making must reside in the communities that have the highest stake in an efficient and effective 911 emergency system.

Sincerely,

Jim Lewis, President  
RVCOG Board of Directors  
(541) 899-7023  
[councilorlewis@jacksonvilleor.us](mailto:councilorlewis@jacksonvilleor.us)



Administration Office

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First and foremost, the Board urges the extension of the current Emergency Communications Tax, as well as its expansion to include all devices with access to the 911 emergency reporting system. Since the popularity of prepaid mobile phones has a great deal to do with the fact that the public is comfortable with being able to use them to contact public safety officers or first responders, it is clearly justifiable that providers in turn support the service.

In addition, the Board considers it critical that the funds collected for 911 emergency services remain dedicated to those emergency services. Without exception, the Board considers any diversion of 911 taxes to be unacceptable public policy. While there is no doubt that governmental entities and their services are under unprecedented financial stress, something as fundamental to our society as the 911 system must remain whole.

Finally, the Board supports PSAP consolidation where and when it makes financial sense and is promoted and supported at the local level. As a regional entity, the Rogue Valley Council of Governments is often involved in a consideration of the merits of regionalized service delivery models, and understands the complexities involved in adjusting those service models. In our experience, the one consistently important factor in a positive outcome for any such process is meaningful local decision-making. While we would encourage the State's participation in potential PSAP consolidation, final decision-making must reside in the communities that have the highest stake in an efficient and effective 911 emergency system.

Sincerely,

Jim Lewis, President  
RVCOG Board of Directors  
(541) 899-7023  
[councilorlewis@jacksonvilleor.us](mailto:councilorlewis@jacksonvilleor.us)

April 9, 2013

To the Ways and Means Committee:

Hi, my name is Cory Hamann and my husband Don and I live on a 250 acre ranch on the outskirts of Butte Falls. We own a Forestry Management Business and a small café located in the town of Butte Falls called the "Sugar Pine Company Café".

Our family has benefited from the OSU Extension programs for many years. Our now grown children have participated in the "4-H programs" in their younger years and earned a blue ribbon or two. I was a 4-H cooking leader when my daughter was younger and it included many local girls that didn't even know how to use measuring cups. They all participated in the competition and judging and learned the art of performing to a crowd of people that they had never met. Our grandchildren went to the week long summer camp a couple of summer's ago that was held at the Hanley Farms and they thoroughly enjoyed it.

My husband regularly attends the monthly classes and meetings and is now on the board. He has taught a class or two also along with Marty Main a local forester. He loves our natural resources and constantly talks with landowners and others about the benefit of using the OSU Extension service for knowledge to do the best with their land. We actively encourage people to become members of the "Oregon Small Woodlands" and have their membership cards on our counter at the café.

Our small town, Butte Falls has changed over the years. It used to be primarily home owners with gardens in their backyards which helped provide their food. At this time many homes are rentals and people don't have a garden in the backyard. We purchased the lot next to the Sugar Pine Café and have been growing vegetables and flowers. The customers love to walk through the garden after eating their meal and enjoying the sights and smells. We have used the Extension service many times for their advice on such things as "building raised beds and improving the garden soil" for this garden. What about the importance of a "Water Wise Garden"? You can get the information from the OSU Extension

service. Since we have put in the garden, it has gotten the attention of many people in our town and they are now considering a garden and realizing the importance of "growing their own food" in our uncertain economy. We tell them to call the OSU Extension for any help they may need.

You don't need to own a large piece of property to get assistance from the Extension service. You can just have some pots on your patio. They have information for whatever your need is.

They have information on just about anything you are pondering or working on whether it is livestock, agriculture, forestry or recycling. It can help anyone, of all ages, no matter what size farm you live on or how much space you have in your city yard. Their help is so very valuable and a wonderful asset to us all.

Our ranch outside of Butte Falls has three generation of "Hamann's" living on it. It is so rewarding to pass down to our grandchildren the many things that we have learned from organizations like the OSU Extension service and to see them putting it into practice.

Thank you,

Cory Hamann

(541) 821-6850 Cell Phone