

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Be Adopted
Vote:	5 - 0 - 4
Yeas:	Berger, Dembrow, Jenson, Kennemer, Garrett
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Barnhart, Hicks, Holvey, Hoyle
Prepared By:	Erin Seiler, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	4/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: In memoriam: Barbara Sackett, 1932-2012.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Advocacy on behalf of her daughter and all children with intellectual disabilities
- Ms. Sackett was at forefront of changing state and federal law relating to special education
- Her commitment to changing attitudes and perceptions about children with disabilities

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Barbara Sackett was a mentor, a dear friend, and a volunteer and, following her death on September 21st, 2012, she will forever be remembered for her service, professionalism and advocacy on behalf of others.

Born and raised in Salem, Barbara Ms. Sackett attended Salem High School and Oregon College of Education (OCE), where she received her bachelor's degree in elementary education. While teaching 6th grade in the tiny coastal timber town of Bridge, Oregon, she met her husband, Harry Sackett. They married and together raised eight children in the Corvallis area.

Barbara Ms. Sackett's role as an advocate for people with intellectual disabilities began when one of her children was born with down syndrome in 1956. While urged to institutionalize her child, she instead worked to change attitudes and perceptions, making life better for people with intellectual disabilities. She worked for the local ARC organization, served as president of the ARC of Benton County, and finally two terms at national ARC association. She returned to school in 1970 and received her master's degree in special education and became Services Coordinator for the Developmentally Disabled in Benton County and statewide Area Coordinator for Developmentally Disabled services for the Mental Health Division of Oregon.

Ms. Sackett advocated, coordinated and shaped services for citizens with intellectual disabilities in Oregon and nationwide, working to integrate them into the community, high schools, and group living situations. Her advocacy allowed children with disabilities in Corvallis to attend school before state or federal law required it and helped pass special education laws in the State of Oregon, making Oregon one of the first states in the country to allow children with disabilities to attend public school. She received the Corvallis Senior First Citizen Award in 2001 and the Governor's Award for Volunteerism in 2009, among countless accolades over her lifetime.

Upon her "retirement" in 1989, Ms. Sackett continued to do volunteer work at ARC of Benton County, Willamette Neighborhood Housing Services and with the local Democratic Party.

She is survived and beloved by all eight children, fourteen grandchildren, and sixteen great grandchildren.

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This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.