## Campaign for Oregon's Seniors People with Disabilities

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## INDEPENDENCE • CHOICE • DIGNITY

AARP Oregon

Advocacy Coalition of Seniors and People with Disabilities

Alzheimer's Association Oregon Chapter

Brain Injury Association of Oregon

Disability Services Advisory Council of Clackamas County

Elders in Action Commission

Governor's Commission on Senior Services

Impact Northwest

Independent Living Resources

LeadingAge Oregon

Long Term Care Advisory Committee

Making Oregon Vital for Elders (MOVE)

Multnomah County Disability Services Advisory Council

National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Oregon Chapter

O4AD (Oregon Association of Area Agencies on Aging and Disabilities)

Oregon AFSCME Council 75

Oregon Alliance for Retired Americans

Oregon Health Care Association

Oregon State Council for Retired Citizens

Oregon Transit Association

Parkinson's Resources of Oregon

Save Oregon Seniors

Seniors Serving Oregon Coalition

Service Employees International Union

United Seniors of Oregon

Urban League of Portland

## **DHS APD Budget**

The Campaign for Oregon's Seniors & People with Disabilities is encouraged by the Governor's Recommended Budget (GRB) providing a basic level of support for vital services for seniors and people with disabilities.

The GRB recommendations are a welcome change from the drastic reductions to essential safety net services that we faced during the recent economic downturn.

The GRB includes \$35 million to address the DOJ Fair Labor Standards Act ruling on compensation for home care workers. The Campaign believes that \$18 million is sufficient to make progress on this issue during 15-17 biennium.

With the 2013 adjustments to the senior medical tax deduction increasing state revenues, the Campaign recommends the following investments to help provide vital services to the most vulnerable Oregonians:

- Continue training for family and professional caregivers \$3.3 million
- Continue the Oregon Project Independence Pilot Project to serve younger disabled individuals \$6 million
- Continue evidence-based health promotion and disease prevention \$1.25 million
- Cost-of-living adjustments for home and community based care providers and in home caregivers of long term care services and supports \$13.84 million
- Recruitment and workforce development of care workers \$2 million
- Senior property tax deferral (including wait-listed individuals) \$1.6 million

## Total = \$28 million of priority investments not included in the GRB.

We understand there is much work to be done, and we look forward to working with you to help identify budget gaps and increase investments in services vital to vulnerable Oregonians.