Introduction

John Breese: we are family ranchers in Crook County East of Prineville. Family has been here for over 100 yrs. It is our hope to pass this to the next generation intact and healthy.

Concern for Budget

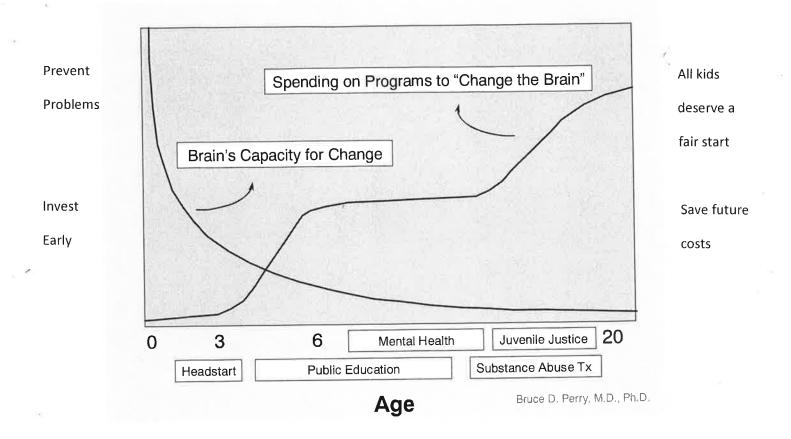
OSU Statewide Public Services Programs Specifically, adding back the 9.4 million to the Continuing Service Level. This is in **SB 805** and needs your support. Natural Resources are the economic engine on the eastside.

This SB 805 will keep from reversing the Past 15 yr decline and hold steady the 2015-17 biennium budget. It is supporting what we already have, it does not add new programs.

In our part of the world we are confronted with Endangered Plants, Fish, Frogs, Birds and Multiple Furry Critters, and a new virtual Endangered Species of the Month .

As the Land Grant University, OSU Experiment Stations, Forest Labs and Extension are the most trusted and reliable sources of research bringing solutions, the bridge which maintains the eastside economic engine. They get the latest and best information to we who manage the land and provide food and fiber for the people in Oregon.

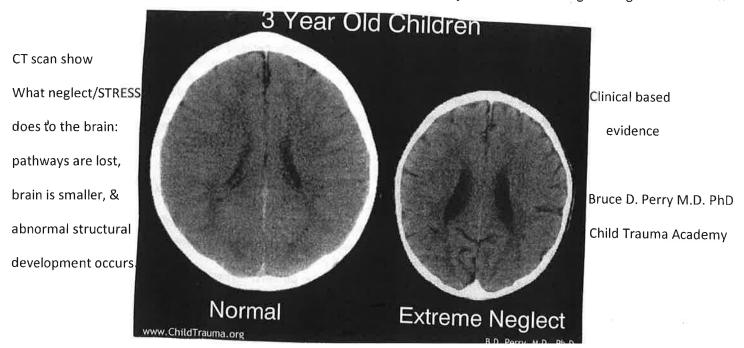
We are continuing to work for what is good for the Bird is good for the Herd. That doesn't come out of thin air. That is why we need these Statewide Programs to be whole and viable.

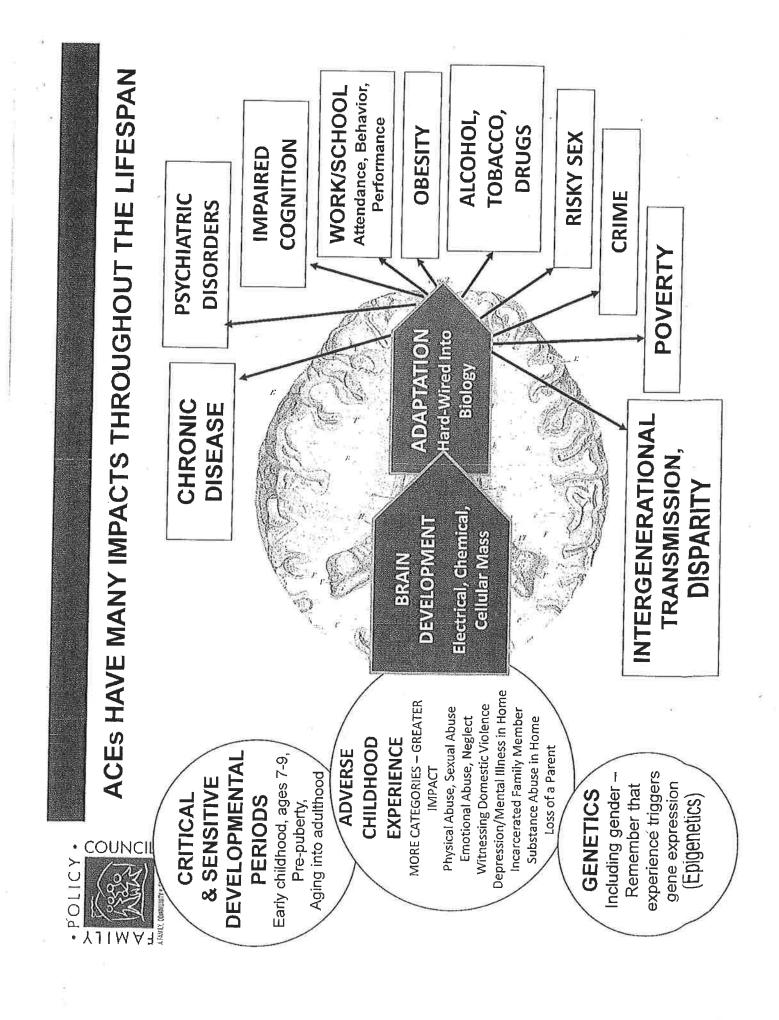


Need to invest funds in early childhood when the brain can develop the pathways for the child to lead a quality and contributing life. 85% of brain developed by age 3 and a most difficult challenge to change in years to come.

STRESS, because of the release of neurochemicals, causes loss of pathways, specifically, pathways for caring for others (empathy), self- regulation, and learning. Pathway loss leads to major social, legal, relationship, and learning problems.

Adults with dysfunction in the first three years of life experience a 3-5 fold increase in chronic health disorders and 6-12 fold increase in mental health and addiction disorders. There would be major health cost savings through PREVENTION.





My name is Shawna Dicintio I have been a Oregon-Madras resident for over 20 yrs.

Madras is where we live, work, study, and play- the budget crisis you all speak of today is critically important for health and schooling especially for our children here in Madras. For someone passing through here they wouldn't see the crisis here. Madras is such a diverse small community with in a much larger diverse county and state. Unfortunately as a result of stubbornly persistent segregation, priviledged individuals sitting on our school board and citycounty boards the opportunity to have a healthy-well educated start for many of our children is is ignored or covered up by splits of racial ,ethnicity, gender, LGBTQ and even the economical lines that have been forced here in Jefferson County. For being so Diverse a false representation of Unity is displayed.

Children of these diversities are far more likely than those running our community and their children - to live in neighborhoods that are also characterized by high poverty, high unemployment, low homeownership, as well as a host of direct health risks, such as limited food options, poor housing options due to greed, Madras has such a low income population that the entire school district is free meals, many of these things are due to the conditions that are changable yet are hinded or falsified, or not reported aquately, such as things in our schools, the already lack of after school teen programs or career choices, many parents are sending our 509J youth to schools in other communities, all while the schools here stay stagnante in the lack of programs, work credit programs for high schoolers, or job shadows insentives, electives that focuse life skills, graduation rates and low state school rankings. Safe School programs and trainings for our teachers and adminstrators in equitiable education and inclusion of ALL students.

Cutting programs within the social services needs here is dangerous, there needs to be a checks and balance from outside auditors on the programs here, not a cut, but someone outside making sure that these services are holding true to the actual policy and procedures and expectations of the program. Cutting access to TANF benefits that are easily used to purchase non esstential items, would save the state alot of money. Enforcing timeline requirements of programs, soberity and job training and work requirements also would save alot of money.

Growing up in neighborhoods and communities that are stable, safe, and nurturing establishes a foundation for healthy development. But for too many children, growing up in this community and other very rural communities here in Oregon they are suffering from economic ristrictions and social disadvantages that often establishes a trajectory for health problems, lower continuing educational supports and lack of college pathways, the high drug and alcohol abuse among our youth is reported to be over 75% here in Jefferson County, and not mention the relapse of many parents of these children. In addition, they are more likely to grow up with health problems that limit their ability to participate in the economic, civic, and political life of



Feb, 19, 2017 mt name is Nictoria I Live h TOMAND. I Want TO be a che + and have MY ownh, Ouse. THANKY OU FOULDE / Plugme With mygals. Victoria Hansen A ge A

In Support of DD Services

My Name 13 Victoria. I Live In Tumalo.

I want to be a chef and have my own house. Thank you for helping me with my goals . With DD money.

X

My Name is Sam Robinson and I live in Madras, Oregon. I am a member of the advocates committee of the Full Access High Desert brokerage for Jefferson County. I want to ask you to keep some of the service like bus transportation. The DD Services has been able to change my life in a way I never thought possible. I couldn't pay for everything. It's given me independence. I support the idea of continued service funding levels. I am a special needs person. My brokerage has helped me with a job and opportunities to explore the community. The Bus services has helped to travel to Redmond and Bend. It allowed me to shop in stores that aren't available in Madras. I appreciate being able to do that. I like being able to work. Thank you for your time.



Gero Leadership Alliance P.O. Box 1912 Bend, OR 97709 www.facebook.com/ GeroLeadershipAlliance

Jana Arbow, CPA

Susan Dearing, BSN RN St. Charles IMCU

Kathy Drew Guardian/Conservator

Angela Jensen, LCSW Older Adult Behavioral Health Initiative

Victoria Johnson, BS, Owner, Leisure Club Foster Homes

Tim Malone, LCSW Gero Care Solutions

Mac McLean, Media Spec. The Aging Beat

Cynthia McDaniel, MSN RN, Elderwise, Inc.

Jean McPherson, MBA Council on Aging

Clara Pratt, PhD Council on Aging Board OSU (Retired)

Linda Ratcliffe, Attorney Oregon Legacy Law LLC

Karren Ruesing, Dist Mgr Aging & People with Disabilities

Scott Shelton, Retired Deschutes County Sheriff's Office

Michelle Thompson Regency Pacific

Nancy Webre, MS, CMC Evergreen In-Home Services

Oregon Ways and Means Committee Public Hearing, Madras Oregon, March 18, 2017 Please support OPI- it is the right thing to do!

Oregon Project Independence (OPI) helps frail, vulnerable older adults stay in their homes through the assistance of home care workers. Persons younger than age 60 who have Alzheimer's disease or other dementia may be eligible for OPI services. Across Oregon, over 2,800 seniors are assisted by OPI each year; in Central Oregon, OPI currently supports 39 seniors in five communities.

• Half (50%) of those who are screened for OPI need help with at least two activities of daily living such as bathing, dressing, or walking.

• 40% of OPI recipients have had either three or more falls in the last six months or one fall that resulted in an injury. 60% of OPI consumers live alone; 70% are . females; the average age is 79; over 30% are 85 or older.

• Most OPI clients are low income (under 25% of the federal poverty level); over 90% of OPI clients qualify for much more expensive Medicaid services

What does OPI provide? To qualify for OPI a person must be age 60 or older and need some type of in-home assistance. Persons younger than age 60 who have a diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease or other dementia may be eligible for OPI services. Major OPI supports include **Personal Care** (in-home services that maintain, strengthen, or restore an individual's functioning in their own home), **Homemaker Assistance** such as: preparing meals, shopping for personal items, managing money, or doing light housework,) **Home Delivered Meals** (Hot nutritious meal provided in the senior' home) **Case Management** (this service individualizes care based on a person's evolving needs.)

Why support OPI?

• OPI saves money! Oregon Project Independence (OPI) successfully keeps at-risk seniors in their own homes and away from more expensive Medicaid services. The financial pay-off is immediate. It costs Oregon \$332 per month in state funds to serve a Consumer through OPI, \$803 per month in state funds to serve a Medicaid in-home service consumer; \$846 in state funds per month to serve a Medicaid consumer in a community-based care facility; and \$3,168 per month in state funds to care for a Medicaid consumer in a nursing home. All individuals receiving OPI services pay an annual fee of \$5.00. Additionally, a monthly sliding scale fee is charged for OPI services based on the amount household income, after deductions for medical expenses.

Providing advocacy, education, and support for Central Oregon Seniors

Joint Committee on Ways and Means Testimony February 18, 2017 412 SE Buff Street Madras

- 1. Thank you Co-Chairs Senator Devlin and Representative Nathanson and members of the joint committee on Ways and Means
- 2. Rick Treleaven, Executive Director of BestCare Treatment Services and the Community Mental Health Director of Jefferson County
- 3. Thank you **holding the hearings** to listen and learn about the impacts of cuts to the state budget as well as possible solutions.
- 4. Alcohol and drug treatment providers play a critical role in the health care delivery system, including:
 - We save money in the health care system.
 - We treat those often who have nowhere else to turn.
 - Our clients, if allowed to degrade further, will be a drain on the health care delivery system.
- 5. We are at the front-end of **integrating our services** into the coordinated care model. Here in Jefferson County, we focus our services on people who are **triple winners**, with high needs in substance abuse, high mental health needs, and high medical burden. We have shown, in partnership with PacificSource, that we **create cost savings** for the global health care budget within a year of clients entering services.
- 6. In a rare display of federal bipartisanship, congress overwhelmingly passed the **CARES act**.
- 7. What the Legislature should do:
 - Preserve funding for the Oregon Health Plan.
 - **Explore revenue options** to close the budget gap.

To: Joint Ways and Means Committee From: Stephanie Widler, Redmond Re: Written testimony for Joint Committee on Ways and Means statewide "road show"

Chair Devlin, Chair Nathanson and Members of the Committee:

My name is Stephanie Widler. I live in Redmond with my husband and two sons. My older son is 11 years old, he is bright and funny, and he experiences Down Syndrome. He is why I am here. I have two points I would like to make today. The importance of funding for Family to Family networks and the importance of funding for Developmental Disabilities Services.

Family to family networks focus on connections. They connect families with their communities and each other. When families get a diagnosis of disability for their child, often life fills with professionals. These people are very knowledgeable about the child's diagnosis and prognosis. What medical and educational professionals aren't as equipped to address is what does the family do now? What do things look like now in the day to day? How do we cope and live a life outside of the systems we now find ourselves in? That's information that comes from families who have been there. There is nothing like talking to another mom who gets it. With privacy laws and caseloads, the family networks are currently the best way for families to connect with each other.

They also help connect us with the community. I want my son to have the same opportunities as every other 11 year old boy. He experiences a disability, and that often makes it more complicated. He needs help accessing his community. The community needs help learning how to welcome everyone. People fear what they don't know and often disability is something unknown. Family Networks can step in and help with that. If you're looking for sustainability, the family networks work to connect and establish natural supports in the community.

The second thing I need to mention is a real need to keep Developmental Disabilities Services funded at current levels. The services they offer are vital to so many of our families, including kids under the age of 18. The idea of completely removing that support for kiddos is very frightening as a mom. But the idea of increasing caseloads significantly is also very scary. If we need help, I can contact my son's Service Coordinator and she has time to get back in touch with me within a day or two. There was a time when it would take weeks. We can't go back to that.

Please continue funding Family to Family Networks and Developmental Disability Services at current levels, they help my son access his community, develop natural community supports and live his life as a full, active 11 year old boy.

Thank you, Stephanie DW Stephanie Widler Stephanie Widler@gmail.com

February 16, 2017

To the Ways and Means Committee,

I am a Crook County liberal progressive. I am a former school teacher and administrator. I am retired and collect \$1290.77 dollars per month in PERS. I believe in healthy communities and strong government.

That said, after reading through page 371 of the Governor's Budget before my eyes bugged out, I think our only hope is to teach 5 year olds how to play video poker and smoke cigars!

Knowing that won't work, here are my concerns, comments, questions, and suggestions:

Increases? I read notations for "increases" in the narratives describing most departments.

Aren't we facing a few major, unsustainable deficit areas? So, why aren't all departments cutting across the board?

Here are just a few disturbing increases I found:

Corrections Budget increase of 7% which is actually much more if one lumps all the monies spent on getting the citizen into the prison system. My suggestion: teach them, train them, and watch them thrive!

PERS increase of 13% when they are in major deficit. The Central Administration office has a budget of 3.9 million for 10 positions. My question: What does that mean and what do they do?

Additional increases that I question:

30% increase in the State Treasury department adding 30 positions 20% increase in Legislative Revenue office and 21% increase overall of the Judicial department.

I would like to suggest "Increases" be limited to an agreed upon percentage that relates to personnel (COLA) and an agreed upon adjusted amount for materials, equipment and supplies as per the current inflation rate.

I believe no new departments should be added and a few should be cut/eliminated.

To begin with, I would cut: Legislative Fiscal officer Legislative Policy office Real Estate Board and Tax Preparers

We focus on the wrong resources!

My name is Al Baensch. I am retired. My wife and I have lived in Prineville for 9 ½ year. During our working life together, we have lived in 7 different states.

I was born before WW-2 in one of the eastern provinces of Germany. At the end of the war, my family was among the 12 million refugees driven out of our homeland. Eventually, we resettled in the west of Germany. When 20 years old, I immigrated to Canada. In 1960 I moved to the US, joined the Army, and was sent back to Germany to work as a linguist. My brother, sister, and extended family still live in the area where we were resettled after the war.

Over the years, we have traveled to Europe to visit about every 3 years. Since retirement 12 years ago, we have been able to stay in Europe for 2 to 3 months at a time. Last year we visited friends or family in England, Denmark, Holland, Germany, Austria, and Italy.

Like ourselves, folks over there are also getting older. Some have health issues. My brother has been in and out of hospital and is now doing much better with the aid of a pacemaker. There is, however, a major difference in his life – he never has to worry about medical bill.

Their son Markus has a chronic kidney condition since childhood. They have always been free to choose their doctors and clinics for the best treatment options. When Markus grew up, it became clear that his career path needed to avoid heavy work. So he was trained in office skills and employed by the city. He has held that job successfully all his life, in spite of periodic illness, and will retire comfortably.

In fact, over the last 40 years Karen and I noticed other major differences between the US and the European countries we have visited. As nephews, nieces, and exchange students we have had living with us grew up, went to school, married, and had children themselves, they never worried much about health care, child care, education, or work. My niece Andrea and husband Stephan were both out of work during the downturn after 2008. Did they have to worry about losing their home? No. Why not, would go too far to explain here. Andrea got into a state sponsored retraining program, both eventually found work again, and are doing well.

My brother paid off his mortgage 33 years ago and has always bought his cars with cash. Close to the same is true for my sister and her husband. Curious about these differences, I checked our own government statistics. Those show consistently that Europeans are healthier, live longer, are better educated, have much lower credit card debt, and more money saved than we Americans. The statistics also tell us that most Europeans, on average, are wealthier than we Americans. Last year, even the Canadians passed us up in average personal wealth.

How can that be? Are we not the wealthiest nation on the planet? Are not the Europeans socialistic societies destined for failure? Yes, Greece is struggling, and the finances of Italy, Spain, and Portugal are reported to be shaky. Yes, England is leaving the European Union. But across the rest of Europe the state finances are actually in better shape than are ours. It turns out, for instance, that the Europeans spend between 1/3 to 1/2 less on their public health care systems that we do, and all show better results, from infant mortality to life expectancy, than we do in America.

Dailon Sherman

February 18, 2017

Members of the Committee,

(Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to speak to you today and tell my story. I have a written copy of my thoughts, but would like to present a short summary to you now.)

My name is Dailon Sherman and I am a nine-teen year old college freshman from Central Oregon Community College. I am from the small town of Baker City in Eastern Oregon. I moved to Bend in the fall to attend community college. I chose to commit to community college because I come from a single-parent household.

College always seemed to be unattainable to me when I was growing up, knowing that my family could not afford it. It was not until my senior year of high school, when a counselor told me about the Oregon Promise Grant.

The Oregon Promise Grant is the reason I am standing here in front of you today. Without it, many students like me would not be able to go to college. I am now in my second term of college, on the path to receiving a degree in physical therapy. With the future of the grant being uncertain, continuing my education is as well. For, without this funding, I could not afford to stay in school.

This grant gives people who have the drive, intelligence, and passion a fighting chance and an equal opportunity to prove their capability. I hope that this grant will be awarded to many students to come, as I would like to see my family and friends have the same chance.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to the students and communities, who would be affected by the dismissal of the grant.

Sincerely, Dailon Sherman Student at COCC

Making an Impact on the lives of local foster children

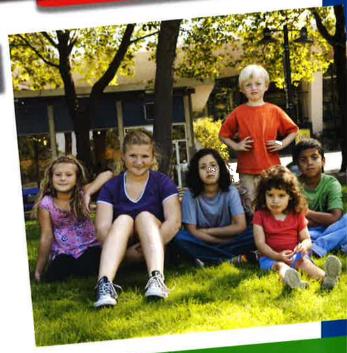


CASA of Central Oregon SNAPSHOT:

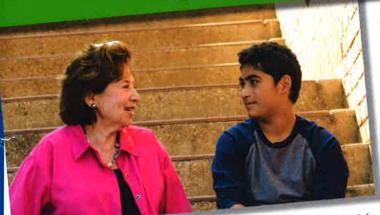
highly trained volunteer citizens dedicate their time advocating for the children's best interests in court.
children in Central Oregon have spent time in foster care this year.

children have been represented by volunteer advocates this year.

children in foster care are currently monitored by CASA staff.



Making a Difference, One Child at a Time



Sixteen-year-old Aaron has faced many difficulties in his life, including homelessness, a drug-addicted mother, and an incarcerated father. He spent the last several years in and out of foster care, his life a constant transition from one living situation to another. When Aaron became a ward of the state, the judge appointed a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) to Aaron's case, and Aaron met Mary. Mary quickly realized that this boy

desperately needed stability and the chance to be a normal teenager. She also knew that once he turned eighteen and was no longer a ward of the court, he was going to need some basic life skills to help him survive in the world. Using the many resources available to her as a CASA, she connected Aaron to several programs to help prepare him to cope with housing, transportation, and job hunting. She utilized the CASA/DHS partnership program called Family Find to locate an older half sister who is willing and excited to be a part of his life. And she found a nonprofit organization to provide a grant to cover the costs of playing on his high school basketball team. Because of his CASA, Aaron is starting to enjoy the life of a typical teenager, with sports, girls, and after school activities - and where struggling through Algebra II is one of his biggest worries, not where he is going to sleep that night.

Finding a Safe and Permanent Home

TO:	Oregon Joint Ways & Means Committee
FROM:	Amy Oland
DATE:	February 18, 2017
RE:	Closing the opportunity gap by reading with SMART (Start Making A
	Reader Today)

-4

Co-Chairs Nathanson and Devlin, members of the committee, my name is Amy Oland and I am one of over 350 volunteer Site Coordinators for SMART (Start Making A Reader Today). I coordinate the SMART program at the Mid-Columbia Children's Council Head Start in Madras, which serves 20 PreK students each week with one-on-one reading support from trained volunteers. Twice each month, my students also get to choose a book to take home and keep – totaling 14 books for each child throughout the course of the year.

SMART is founded upon leading research that proves shared book reading and availability of books in the home are key ingredients in a child's literacy development. Statewide this year, SMART will serve 10,500 children thanks to 5,000 volunteers in 300 sites in nearly every corner of the state, and will give away over 160,000 books. Over the past 25 years, SMART has served nearly 200,000 children with 125,000 volunteers, and has put over 2.4 million books in the hands of Oregon kids and families. Compared with state figures reported in the US census, Madras has relatively high percentages of Latino and Native American students, as well as students living in poverty – and both of these factors contribute to a troubling education gap for many children in our community. Programs such as SMART are especially important in communities like Madras; providing one-on-one reading support and access to books are effective strategies in closing the education gap.

I am asking for your support for a continuation of the \$500,000 funding allocation SMART has received in the past two legislative biennia to support our children and services across Oregon. An allocation of \$500,000 will support nearly 1,700 students in SMART. Investing in SMART means investing in a proven strategy helping to narrow the education gap in Oregon.

Thank you for your consideration.

Any Oland

Thank you so much for visiting us here in Central Oregon and especially in Jefferson County. It is also a good year to say thank you for your public service given the tough job of matching Oregon's revenue and expenses.

I am Tim Rusk, Executive Director of MountainStar Family Relief Nursery. We work in the tricounty area of Crook, Deschutes and Jefferson Counties and annually serve 350 children ages 0-5. Almost always, we work with parents who love their children and yet challenged by the distractions of adult life – safe affordable housing, poverty, health and/or mental health issues, substance abuse issues, involvement with the criminal justice system or child welfare and others. Almost half of parents using Relief Nursery services statewide are themselves survivors of child abuse and neglect.

Families in Relief Nurseries have an average of 16 risk factors or "stressors" on top of having young children. Imagine what it would be like to be a parent in this situation...maybe you don't have to imagine and this is the experience of you or one of your family members.

We all know there is a world of difference between facing challenges alone and isolated, versus having a positive support network. Research shows that a healing and therapeutic relationship makes a positive difference regardless of the exact modality of that intervention. Relief Nurseries have a winning combination of therapeutic classrooms for children, in addition to home visits and other services for adults. The result is a 70% reduction in the incidence of child abuse and neglect for children enrolled after just 6 months. Over 95% of children remain safely at home. It is an extraordinary outcome. And yes for some children being removed from their family and going into foster care is the best outcome.

DHS/Child Welfare has an unduplicated role in keeping Oregon children safe. I know improvements are in the works, but the fact that Oregon's child protective services failed every element of our federal audit is a CRISIS. Relief Nurseries provide prevention services – we are about as upstream as it gets - and there are many other great prevention efforts. But we simply can't succeed without a effective Child Welfare system.

Actions speak louder than words and there has been a clear message that child victims are not a priority in Oregon. From what I have seen, the trauma and toxic stress in this system effects all parts – children, bio-parents, foster parents, DHS staff, program partners such as Relief Nurseries, and community members who jump in to paint walls of visitation rooms and provide gift boxes for children entering the foster care system. I encourage you to take courageous action and fund improvements to this system.

For Relief Nurseries, we are asking for on-going support. We have grown over the years and are now in 31 communities. As nonprofits, we can do great fund raising and leverage state funding

Statewide Public Service Programs

EXTENSION SERVICE

AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

FOREST RESEARCH LABORATORY

We focus the power of science on critical issues important to Oregon

E very day, in every community across Oregon, people are engaged in learning and discovery through OSU's statewide programs. From 4-H and Master Gardeners to food innovation and forest engineering, we solve problems and create opportunities in communities across Oregon. With OSU faculty stationed in every county, *the state truly is our campus.*

Sustainable Management of Working Landscapes – Much of Oregon's productivity comes from its forests, farms, and ocean. The Statewide Programs help create practical approaches to sustain at-risk species such as marbled murrelet and sage-grouse, and to eradicate invasive species, manage juniper, and support agricultural production from coast to high desert.

Water Quality and Quantity – Urban and rural communities across Oregon require clean water. The Statewide Programs are examining specific agricultural and forestry practices that ensure water quality and reduce water use. Statewide programs in coastal communities are assessing the social, environmental, and economic impact of changes to coastal waters. **Value-Added Manufacturing and Economic Vitality** – Oregon is reinventing its resource-based, globally competitive industries in rural communities. The Statewide Programs are developing new technologies for value-added agricultural, seafood, and forestry products that create family-wage jobs in rural communities where they are most needed. And we are partners in developing Oregon's outdoor economy.

Public Health, Food Safety and Security – The Statewide Programs help ensure that Oregon families have what they need to live healthy lives. Programs address the entire food system, from breeding new crops and developing food safety practices, to teaching family nutrition and promoting community health across the state.

Educating the Workforce of Tomorrow – Excellence in education begins with Extension programs such as 4–H, that fosters youth development, and Juntos, that empowers student success. Statewide faculty use research facilities across the state to provide students with career-building experiential learning and extend access to lifelong learning through Oregon Open Campus.



The Statewides receive broad support from the agriculture and natural resources sectors, environmental groups, and public health advocates. Oregonians everywhere in the state benefit from these programs.

Willamette Valley: increased

research and extension on honey-bee and pollinator health; integrated pest management and slug control in commercial crops; specialty seed breeding; and timber harvest management.

Coastal communities:

increased research and extension in seafood and shellfish safety; nearshore fishery management; community economic development; increased support for the dairy industry and commercial cheesemaking; and new research focused on managing forest lands that are also habitat for marbled murrelet, a threatened seabird that nests in coastal forests.

Southern Oregon: increased research and extension related to small farms and community food systems, integrated pest management, orchard production, and vineyard management. Urban communities: more local programs focused on healthy living and nutrition education; expanded programs to support small-scale farming and community food systems; and increased research and development in fermentation sciences.

SUResearch and Extension Centers

OSU Campuses

Throughout Oregon: increased opportunities for college and career readiness; focus on degree completion; experiential learning programs for students aged five through college in real-world settings; and economic and community development.



OSU Open Campus Sites

OSU Forest Research Lab Sites

Eastern Oregon: increased research and extension focused on rangeland ecology to support sagegrouse conservation; juniper harvest and manufacturing; and water and nutrient management in rotation cropping.

Central Oregon: increased research and extension related to small farms and community food systems, pollinator health, and water management.

Learn more about OSU's Statewide Programs

extension.oregonstate.edu/bridges/

Scott Reed

Vice Provost, Outreach and Engagement Director, OSU Extension Service scott.reed@oregonstate.edu; 541-737-2713

Dan Arp

Dean, College of Agricultural Sciences Director, Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station dan.arp@oregonstate.edu; 541-737-2331

Thomas Maness

Dean, College of Forestry Director, Oregon Forest Research Laboratory thomas.maness@oregonstate.edu; 541-737-4279

The idea of research and education in the service of the people began with the Morrill Act of 1862 that created the nation's land-grant university system, during the height of the Civil War. The Hatch Act followed in 1887, creating a national network of Agricultural Experiment Stations, and in 1914, the Smith-Lever Act established the Cooperative Extension Service



EXTENSION SERVICE AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION FOREST RESEARCH LABORATORY

in every state. The McIntire-Stennis Act created the Forest Research Laboratory in 1962.

Today, the state's contributions to these three Statewide Public Service Programs are funded by separate line items in the Oregon budget, matched by federal and local funds.

Testimony of Doug Riggs, Co-Chair HSCO

Madras, Oregon Ways and Means Budget Hearings, February 18, 2017

Co-Chairs and Members of the Committee,

My name is Doug Riggs and I am Co-Chair of the Human Services Coalition of Oregon. I also grew up in Redmond, Oregon, just down the highway. So I am very happy to be here today in Madras to share a few brief thoughts on the challenges you face in putting together a budget for Oregon.

HSCO members meet weekly to coordinate efforts on human services programs and share information that will better allow our groups to work together to solve the very real challenges that many Oregonians face in their daily lives. Seniors, children, people with disabilities, and health and welfare groups all participate.

We certainly appreciate the enormous challenges that this budget presents. We understand the Constitutional requirement to balance the budget, and we support a thorough look at each and every program to ensure that they are value based and efficiently administered. We have been on the record for supporting both new revenues and working to control spending in areas that do not affect the lives and safety of children and adults in this state.

As you consider funding for the 2017-2019 budget, I would urge you to prioritize state programs that focus on programs which are: 1) Cost savers downstream (i.e. evidence based programs that provide intervention and supports for children facing adverse childhood experiences, childhood trauma, abuse and neglect, or developmental disabilities, or programs which leverage large amounts of other federal or private funding, such as OPI, school health centers, etc.); 2) Essential for the lives or safety of Oregonians. During the last major cutback of the Oregon Health Plan in 2007, we watched as 80,000 Oregonians lost coverage. The result? Uncompensated costs in Emergency Rooms around the state soared by \$432 million, Oregonians in need of life saving drugs were put at risk, and the long term impacts of untreated mental and behavioral health challenges led to an increase in health care costs, an increase in costs in our corrections system, and tens of thousands of adults left with a lifetime of mental health issues, homelessness, and poverty. As we eliminated supports for school aged children (by cutting community based programs for school-aged kids from \$72 million to \$34 million and eventually to less than \$3 million), we watched our absentee rate skyrocket and our graduation rate plummet. These mean higher costs for Oregon in the long term as education outcomes fall, health outcomes worsen, and workforce challenges increase.

HSCO members stand ready to help provide the Committee with real world examples of success, of recovery, of resilience from often small but critical investments in human services programs. Keeping a senior healthy and living independently saves money long term. Funding the intervention to get a 4 year old out of an abusive situation saves money long term. Making sure that students facing poverty have basic health care saves money long term. These and many other human services programs leverage community support, federal and foundation funding, and countless volunteer hours. Prevention is often hard to quantify, but evidence from study after study proves that it works.

Again, thank you for your consideration today. We appreciate your willingness to listen to the input from Oregonians around the state.

Joint Ways & Means Committee Public Hearing February 18, 2017

Redmond School District Testimony – Michael D. McIntosh, Superintendent

Co-Chair Devlin, Co-Chair Nathanson, Committee members, my name is Mike McIntosh and I speak to you on behalf of the Redmond School District where I serve as Superintendent.

There are many exciting things that are happening for students in Redmond, Oregon that I would love to be sharing with you today. We're proud of the fact that our recent graduation rates improved by over eight percentage points. I'd love to share with you how Redmond School District made that leap happen. That's the exciting, fun and incredibly rewarding part of the job I'm privileged to have. But with my limited time, I need to talk to you about the most challenging part of my job as Superintendent – balancing a budget in the face of revenues that do not grow at the same pace as expenditures thus forcing decisions regarding which of the programs, people or priorities will have to be cut to balance that budget. The very same programs, people and priorities that we credit to the success of students in our district.

At the K-12 budget amount proposed by the Co-Chairs in their "budget framework", the Redmond School District will need to shave \$2.8 million dollars from our current service level expenditures. How will we do that? Since 2009, we've had plenty of experience shaving, cutting and deferring costs. The one thing that has been consistent is the volatility of the biennial revenues that are allocated to K-12 education by the state. But, with all the practice we get cutting costs, it never gets easier. On the other side of those cuts are real students sitting in Redmond's classrooms right now who have potentially lost a once in a lifetime opportunity for a first-class education. It is heartbreaking to see the negative impact a budget reduction and shortfall has on this generation of public school children in our state. It is not their fault. It must become a priority that sustains progress and growth of our students.

To shave \$2.8 million dollars from our budget, we could do one of the following things: cut 16 days from our school calendar or lay off 30 teachers which can only happen by increasing our

class sizes by over 4 students per class. That means having kindergarten classrooms of 27 students. If we are forced to go there, I can guarantee you that graduation rates in 2030 will show the negative impact of those larger kindergarten class sizes - the result of a decision that is made now.

Of course, to balance our budget by removing \$2.8 million, we will likely not cut that many days or that many teachers. But, with over 84% of our budget tied to the cost of employees, we will be forced to do some combination of both in addition to eliminating programs and resources. The teachers that will be laid off are likely teaching elective courses – those courses that more than any other engage our students and motivate attendance. The other costs that will likely be cut are technology costs. We will be forced to retreat from our initiative of making one-to-one technology available for all our students which, in effect, will give Redmond students the exact wrong message; that they don't deserve a 21st Century education.

The nagging question that remains is: "why does the overall percentage of our state budget that is allocated to K-12 continue going down?" Not so long ago, that percentage was approaching 45%. We have been well below 40% for quite some time, hovering around the 38% mark. Restoration of a better balance might be a great place to start. Right sizing the budget and reprioritizing education in the grand scheme sounds fair and reasonable.

An additional question that is asked of me often is how can education be in such a "bad" way if the economy is recovering and appears strong. The answer lies in the structure that Oregon uses to fund education and the level of priority that gets placed on educating our youth. I understand the number of requests and amount of strain on a state budget. I don't understand why K-12 funding is declining and is clearly inadequate to keep pace with the expectation of providing qualified workforce that is college or career ready.

I'm not here to paint a picture of doom and gloom. Anyone who knows me knows that I am an optimistic guy. I am here tell you, our elected representatives, that I believe you can work

together across your party lines for the sake of every Oregon child who deserves a first class education and a promising future <u>today</u>. Redmond School District has "Success is Possible for Every Student" on our letterhead. We believe that statement and take great pride in the delivery of that promise. I believe that you want the same thing for our students that I do and that every Oregon parent does as well.

We Central Oregonians have minority representation in Salem. We have been told that our representatives will only support new revenue measures if the majority party supports cuts to costs, primarily PERS. We share their desire to see PERS costs reduced. The Redmond School District's PERS increases are contributing \$1.2 million to our \$2.8 million deficit. We also know how badly this state needs new revenue sources – revenue sources that provide stability and adequacy to the K-12 education budget today and into the future. I believe that our state legislators share common desires for the children of Oregon and their future. I believe you will do the right thing, you will prioritize, you will compromise and you will create a promising future for every student in Oregon.



Deschutes County Department of Community Justice

J. Kenneth Hales, Director

GOVERNORS BALANCED BUDGET TRIGGERS COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS OPT-OUT

Oregon Legislative Assembly's budget-writing Joint Ways and Means Committee, my name is Ken Hales and I am the Director of Deschutes County Community Justice. I would like to add a couple brief observations to augment Director Symons' comments.

Over the past few years the community corrections departments, with their public safety partners, have made excellent progress to keep communities safe, reduce recidivism, and reduce prison utilization. The grant in aid allocation, Measure 57 grants and Justice Reinvestment funds all contribute to a community corrections department's capacity to do its business. Although the Justice Reinvestment Initiative funding remains intact reductions in grant in aid undermine our efforts across the board.

For example, I have one parole and probation officer assigned to work with the offenders on short term transitional leave. She has a smaller caseload as predicated by evidence based practices. We have had great success with these offenders to date.

When these offenders complete short term transitional leave they transition to a regular caseload. If the grant in aid is reduced our ability to carry forward the progress an offender has made while on short term transitional leave is compromised.

Simply put, if the funding is reduced we cut services and lay off staff. Offenders that used to get UAs on the weekend will not get UAs on the weekend. Some offenders that were actively supervised will be moved to case bank. Some offenders that were supervised by a PO with 50 offenders on his or her caseload will be supervised by a PO with 80 on their caseload.

I ask you to fully fund community corrections, to maintain our current level of service, and to avoid opt out.

Thank you for this opportunity to be heard and thank you for your sincere and thoughtful efforts to tackle the state's budget deficit.

FEB 18, 2017

TO: WAYS AND MEANS

I AM WRITING TO EXPRESS MY CONCERN REGARDING THE RE-ALLOCATION UF FUNDS THAT WERE EARMARKED FOR VETERAW programs in OREGOW, AS I UNDERSTAND IT AFTER OREGON VOTERS APPROVED THE FUNDS FROM LOTTERY MONEY, IT SEEMS THAT, THAT OPENED THE DOOR TO USE PREVIOUSLY MONIES BUDGETED FOR VETERANS SOME WHERE ELSE (MY OPLOWON is RESCUE PERS) I THINK THE MESSAGE FROM VOTERS 15 NERY CLEAR, THE LOTTERY FUNDS VOTED ON, WERE TO SUPPLEMENT BUDGET MONEY, NOT TO REPLACE IT. TO DO OTHER THAN WHAT WAS INTENDED ON THE BALLOT Would BE DISGRACECCUL. I I AM ASKING YOL TO COMPLY WITH VOTERS

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URTHAN VEFERAN IFW MEMBER Nost 12141



Crooked River Weed Management Area

498 SE Lynn Blvd. Prineville, OR 97754 Phone: (541) 447-9971 Fax: (541) 416-2115 Debbie.wood@oregonstate.edu

Testimony Regarding House Bill 2043 Weed Control Appropriations & Emergency Declaration House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources Joint Ways and Means Committee February 18, 2017 Madras, Oregon

Distinguished Members,

On behalf of the Crooked River Weed Management Area (CWMA), we strongly support continued funding for the Oregon Department of Agriculture's (ODA) Weed Control Program, including ODA's staff and ODA's Biocontrol Program. As a cooperative group of partners that work directly on noxious weed control issues, we know all too well the impact invasive plants have on Oregon's natural resources and economy. We work closely with the Oregon Department of Agriculture and benefit from their expertise and leadership regarding noxious weed control and management. As a non-profit, we solely rely on grants and agreements from the Oregon State Weed Board, USFS, BLM, USDA, ODFW, and others. This year the Oregon State Weed Board Funded three of our projects, which one is a biocontrol project with Jefferson County. Since the ODA's Biocontrol program is being cut, we have to rely on technical assistance from our ODA Weed Control Program specialist, Mike Crumrine and the USDA APHIS. Crooked River Weed Management Area is concerned with the potential loss of the ODA'a Biological Control Program in the next fiscal year. There are strong economic benefits from biocontrol for invasive weeds in Oregon and the loss of this ODA program; we feel will set Oregon back from other states that have a strong program.

Stated in the new Oregon Statewide Strategic Plan for Invasive Species: 2017-2027 (pg. 35); "The recurrent theme of the Statewide Strategic Plan is the need for **top-down support** of invasive species programs with increased funding and enhanced capacity, effective coordination across jurisdictions, and an increased awareness and sense of personal responsibility from the public.¹"



To Whom It May Concern;

My name is Seth Johnson, and I am the Executive Director of the Opportunity Foundation of Central Oregon. We are Central Oregon's largest community provider of Medicaid funded housing, behavioral, community supported living, nursing and employment services to individuals experiencing intellectual and developmental disabilities. For 51 years we have worked to empower people of diverse abilities as we pursue our mission of all people living, learning and working together. We value dignity, equality, empowerment, excellence, integrity and inclusion. These values apply equally to the people we support and to our wonderful staff.

This is wonderful and inspirational work. It is also challenging, technically difficult and can be emotionally and physically wearing. There is an extensive course of ongoing required training as well as intensive daily, and sometimes hourly, documentation requirements. Staff must regularly manage and deliver psychotropic and other critically important medications. Many of the people we support have challenges that require the perfect implementation of detailed medical and behavioral support plans. I could go on.

Like all other similar agencies around our state we experience a high turnover rate, often 40-50% or more annually, particularly in our 24 hour residential homes and particularly in the less desirable shifts such as overnights and weekends. Every exiting employee is offered an exit interview. By far the primary reason for people leaving is wages. They love our benefits, their co-workers, our mission and the people we support. They just need better wages. The same challenge faces us as we seek to recruit skilled and qualified team members.

Over the past 4 years our agency has worked tirelessly to improve the wages and benefits of the people delivering services to this vulnerable population. We have found creative ways of restructuring programs and benefits, including our model retirement plan, in order to find funds with which to increase wages. We have increased wages several times and in several ways. Over that same 4 years time we have received one state rate increase of 4%. We raised wages 5% in response, and the agency covered the associated increase in benefits costs.

I am so sorry I cannot be with you today. I am writing to advocate in the strongest terms for funds to be set aside in the budget increasing rates to community providers that would enable us to increase wages in a meaningful manner. Our agency is a longstanding member of the Oregon Resource Association, also known as ORA. As a member agency we advocate regularly on behalf of, and in partnership with, Direct Support Professionals or DSPs in every arena. I urge you to examine Senate Bill 238 put forward by ORA in concert with Senator Sarah Gelser. This bill enables providers to increase wages, not just once, but in a sustainable and respectful fashion. This bill exemplifies how much provider agencies value, respect and support our front line staff. Thank you.

Seth Johnson

Empowering People of Diverse Abilities

Co-Chair Devlin and Nathanson and members of the committee: My name is Dave Colburn and I am an elementary teacher here in Jefferson County. Me and my wife Mary are the proud parents of Melissa Colburn, who is 21 years old and receives case management from Jefferson County. Melissa lives with us at home. and suffers from Operated Disabilities here epilepsy Markalso affects for cognitive abilities Today I would like to share with you how case management has made a difference in Melissa's life and the great work her case manager does.

Melissa's case manager, Chris Lathe, has been important to us as he has connected us to the Opportunity Foundation here in town so that Melissa can start working. He is also helping us get information and resources about college options that are appropriate for Melissa. Currently we are exploring some college programs designed specifically for students who are intellectually challenged. These programs teach independent living skills in a college setting as well as providing valuable job experience.

I understand there are cuts included in the budget for case management and I am concerned because as Melissa's parents we are trying to find the help she needs to be independent. Having a case manager that can help give her more options gives Melissa hope. The services that Chris is providing for Melissa is opening up her eyes to the possibilities of a bright future. I don't know what we would do in a crisis without the help and support we get from Chris.

Thank you for coming to Madras. I know you have difficult budget decisions to make, but cutting case management services will only be more expensive in the end when there are not case managers available to support us. It shifts costs to more expensive services and doesn't help support keeping individuals in their communities. Thank you.



Oregon Measure 96, HB 5039 Veterans of Foreign Wars Budget Town Hall Talking Points

Oregon has a responsibility to fund veterans services through the General Fund. House Bill 5039 proposes to cut funding to veterans by 80%, while the rest of Oregon's programs have a 4% proposed cut. That is a huge disparity, and unacceptable! The Oregonians who have sacrificed the most to protect our freedoms shouldn't have to shoulder the additional and very inequitable burden to balance Oregon's budget.

Measure 96 was written, advertised and understood by Oregon voters to be a supplement to the General Fund financing of veterans services, not a substitute.

When Measure 96 passed in October 2016, 84% of Oregonians agreed that veterans should have additional funding. That is the largest margin of success of any bill in the history of Oregon. Please, honor the wishes of the majority of Oregon's Citizenry and supplement the current service level of veteran funding with 1.5% of lottery funds.

We as VFW members with our families and friends voted for measure 96 expecting that we would be receiving more funding for our Veterans Service Officer; money that Oregon in past years allocated to the VFW and other Veteran Service Organizations.

46612

Additional funding of VFW, American Legion, DAV and other Congressionally Chartered Organization's Veterans Service Officers support the need for Nationally Accredited representation to navigate the VA bureaucracy, from Non-governmental sources. Many veterans, particularly Vietnam Veterans have a lack of trust for Federal, State or County Systems. Veterans Service Organization Service Offices are a much-needed resources for those Veterans.

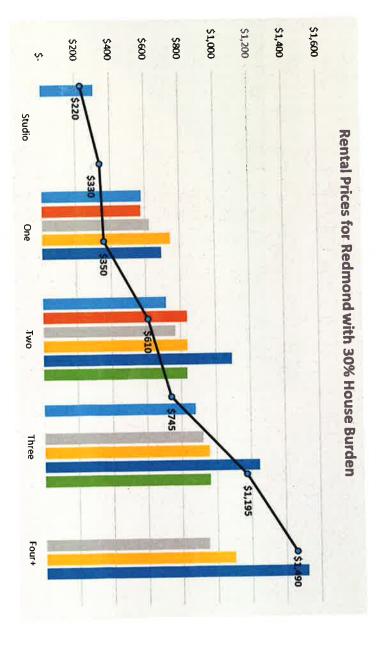
The VFW Service Officer's average more than double the number of claims (480) a year, than the State and County VSO's (180.) Our VSO's have a consistent history of obtaining between 20 and 30 million dollars a year in VA earned benefits for the veterans they serve. For this huge workload and incredible success rate, we compensate them at nearly half the pay of their State and County Peers. It is a well-grounded, sensible and fiscally responsible decision to fund the VFW and other Organizations Veteran Service Offices.

all the Youth & updomine Message Box: I am Dakota Montgomony, age 19 and have been 30% AMIT Know For to be In Reventy crisis: Almost llegal Emergency thousing CRIME P. 0 SUOLUDIA Not enough howing in the drug use r suicide 7 I Believe up can all agree without she then one does not have G the Ability OF will-power to survive invorting of Low-sulfesteen than a lack of youth to be treated poorly ? My hope is for child & Teens to have g safe and decent place to Reside I don't want other Problem Solution you Support will belo o successful ture Values Vision for oregon I Plea that as we Represtation Riture generations to COM C. 0 G

Low Income Affordable Housing Removing barriers Senior housing projects Partnerships with Service Providers Regional Housing Affordability Collaborations

t

	30% Housing	Annual
Income Type	Burden	Income
SS Payment	`\$220	\$8,796
SS + Eligible Spouse	\$330	\$13,200
SSDI (avg)	\$350	\$13,992
30% AMI	\$610	\$24,300
50% AMI	\$745	\$29,850
80% AMI	\$1,195	\$47,750
100% AMI	\$1,490	\$57,900



Rupe Embanks, mayor



125 SW "E" Street, Madras, OR 97741 Telephone (541)475-2344 - Fax (541)475-1038

DATE:	February 8, 2017
TO:	State of Oregon Senators & Representatives
FROM:	City of Madras
RE:	How you can help Local Government services in the City of Madras

Revenue adjustments to existing state funding sources requested to sustain services

Whereas, the State of Oregon legislature has established funding systems for 911 dispatch service and transportation operations and maintenance; however these funding mechanisms are not keeping up with inflation and the rising demand in 911 dispatch services; and

Whereas, local funding options are increasingly difficult to implement due to inconsistencies across communities and uneven burden across business activity, particularly those in close neighboring communities. For the City of Madras, a daily group of motorists (12,000 - 16,000 vehicles per day) visit, stop to do business, and pass through our community who have a logical nexus to share in these services provided to each one; and

Whereas, state funding mechanisms for 911 dispatch and transportation are in place, equitable, and are the preferred alternative by industry advocates; and Oregon is in 50th place for charging wireless phone services per the Tax Foundation 2013 Report. Oregon's enactment of a pre-paid cell phone charge was good and fair, but insufficient of adjusting needed funding levels to keep up with the rising costs of service;

Therefore, the followings actions are needed to [better/best?] sustain local government services:

- 1. Inflationary adjust the State of Oregon 911 tax from \$0.75 per phone per month that was set in 1995 and never adjusted since. It is estimated using a common inflationary index that the new charge would be approximately \$1.25 per month per phone.
- 2. Increase funding to the State Highway Fund that distributes transportation funding to cities and counties. ODOT's 2015 report on transportation funding identifies that the cost of building a road has increased 100% from the year 1993 to 2014; however, the State's gas tax has only been increased once in that time period by 25% (going from \$0.24 per gallon to \$0.30 per gallon in 2011), and improved fuel

efficiency of vehicles has further complicated the ability to increase revenue to even keep up with inflation, let alone increase capacity of our transportation systems.

Supporting Information:

- Council resolution in support of new state transportation funding package
- The Madras Citizen & Business Advisory Committee recommended to increase transportation funding (FCS Group January 2015 Report on Transportation Utility Formation)
- Madras and Jefferson County support and implementation to consolidate 911 dispatch services with Wheeler, Gilliam and Sherman counties
- Tax Foundation Report (2013) on fees & charges for Wireless services

Help with passing legislative measure to allow a pilot project for land use - LC 1640

Whereas, the State of Oregon legislature has set the land use laws by which local governments administer the rules for zoning and developing property within the state for commerce; and

Whereas, the Madras Municipal Airport property – wholly owned by the City of Madrasconsists of approximately 2,190 acres. Of that total, about 1,763 acres are currently located outside Madras' city limits and Urban Growth Boundary (UGB). The 1,763 acres are zoned "Airport Management" which is a developable designation for economic use. Of this acreage, 609 acres are under use by Daimler Trucks North America, Madras' North Waste Treatment Plant, Madras Drag Strip, and the Madras Municipal Airport. Additionally, the City of Madras is in process of completing a regional industrial large lot process that will expand its UGB around 195 acres of airport management area and 414 areas of aeronautical use area within the 1,763 acres, leaving about 1,154 acres of city airport property remaining outside the city's UGB and city limits to be;

Whereas, the City of Madras has agreed to federal grant assurances with the Federal Aviation Administration to protect the aeronautical use of the airport, and also to utilize the suitable airport properties (not reserved for aeronautical use) for lease to other economic development purposes that support airport operations;

Whereas, the Airport properties are considered non-resource lands according to the Jefferson County Comprehensive Plan, and the land is planned for urban use under the current zoning. The Airport properties outside the UGB are adjacent to the existing UGB and city limits; and

Whereas, the benefits of having the Madras' city limit and UGB around the Airport include:

- 1. Streamlining the development process by requiring new development to permit through the Madras' Planning Department only (versus City & County);
- 2. The City's comprehensive plan, land use zoning, and the Airport Master Plan will all be administered by one common agency on behalf of the Airport; and

3. The City of Madras' ordinances and tax base will be extended over its own property for sustainability of public services upon annexation of such area.

Therefore, the City of Madras seeks the State of Oregon legislature's assistance to extend its urban growth boundary around its entire Airport property zoned Airport Management as a pilot project program to be administered by DLCD as detailed further by LC 1640.

LC 1640 2017 Regular Session 11/4/16 (EMM/ps)

DRAFT

SUMMARY

Directs Land Conservation and Development Commission to establish and implement pilot program to implement master plan for economic development on land adjacent to airport in rural area. Establishes criteria for pilot program.

Requires commission to report on pilot program during 2022 regular session of Legislative Assembly.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

2 Relating to economic development of land adjacent to an airport in a rural 3 area.

4 Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

5 <u>SECTION 1.</u> (1) The Land Conservation and Development Commis-6 sion shall establish and implement an economic development pilot 7 program. Notwithstanding any statewide land use planning goal pro-8 visions specifying requirements for amending urban growth bounda-9 ries, the commission shall adopt rules to implement the pilot program. 10 The pilot program is intended to:

11 (a) Promote economic development in a rural area; and

12 (b) Promote industry growth and job creation.

(2) Under the rules adopted under this section, the commission shall
establish a site selection process by which the commission shall select

15 one pilot program site from a city located not less than 100 miles from

16 a city with a population of 300,000 or more and located in a county with

17 at least (eight percent) unemployment over the preceding five-year pe-

riod. 18

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NOTE: Matter in boldfaced type in an amended section is new; matter [italic and bracketed] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in boldfaced type.

5.8% ave. in 2016 per Career Trends

LC 1640 11/4/16

1 Act.

SECTION 3. (1) The city selected to participate in the pilot program by the Land Conservation and Development Commission under section 1 of this 2017 Act shall protect the pilot program site from conversion to other uses before, during and after the implementation of the master plan for economic development, except as provided otherwise in rules adopted by the commission under sections 1 and 2 of this 2017 Act.

9 (2) The city selected for participation in the pilot program by the 10 commission shall ensure that the commercial or industrial develop-11 ments on the pilot program site continue to be used to implement the 12 master plan for economic development for a period of at least 50 years 13 after the selection of the pilot program site through:

14 (a) Zoning restrictions; or

(b) Other regulations, provisions or conditions determined by the
 city.

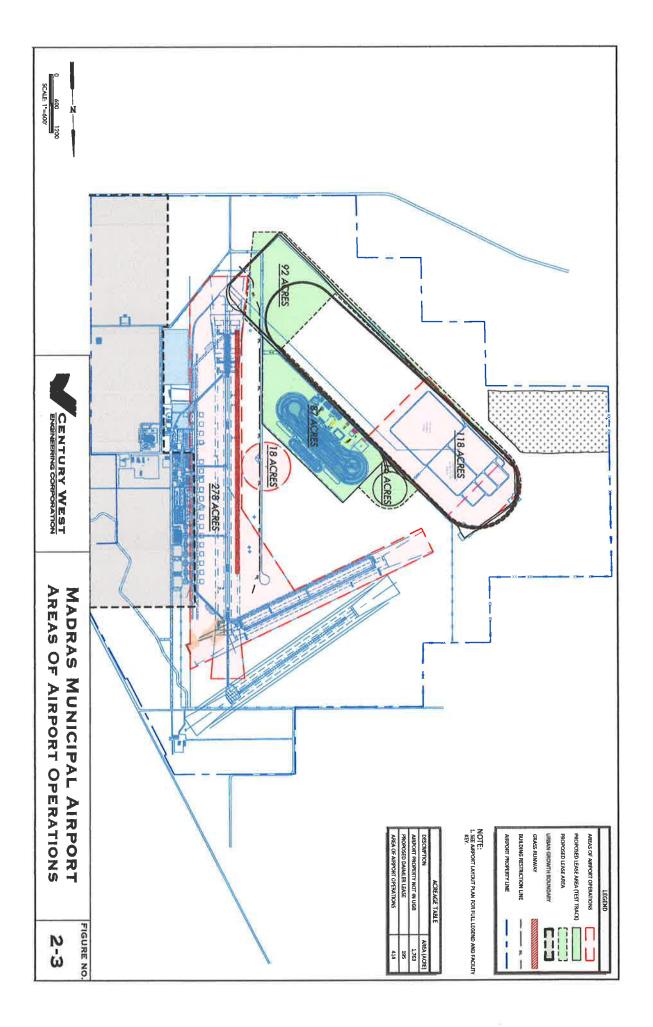
(3) The city selected for participation in the pilot program by the
 commission may:

19 (a) Annex the land included in the pilot program site.

(b) Rezone the land, or any portion thereof, included in the pilot
program site to accommodate the provisions of the city's master plan
for economic development.

23 <u>SECTION 4.</u> (1) A city may not use sections 1 to 3 of this 2017 Act 24 to bring high-value farmland, as determined by the commission, 25 within its urban growth boundary.

(2) Sections 1 to 3 of this 2017 Act do not constitute a statutory contract. A pilot program site selected under section 1 of this 2017 Act and a master plan for economic development implemented on a selected pilot program site remain subject to new or additional regulatory requirements authorized by law, statewide land use planning goals and land use regulations implementing the goals.



Department of Veterans Affairs payments to Oregon veterans, dependents and survivors

In Fiscal Year 2015 Oregon veterans received more than \$1.3 billion in compensation and pension payments (approximately \$106 million per month), \$145 million in Education and Readjustments benefits, and more than \$1.1 billion in Health Care. In the last decade, veteran benefits and compensation received by veterans in Oregon **has more than doubled**.

Our county Veteran Service Officers (VSOs), Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs (ODVA) and the many veteran organizations (VFW, American Legion, DAV, etc.) are the major players when it comes to helping our veterans apply for these benefits. Without the services provided by these organizations many veterans would never apply for or receive these benefits.

Many Oregon counties provide VERY limited funding for their VSOs, depending on grants from ODVA to fund significant portions of the VSO budget. Our Jefferson County VSO budget is less than \$70,000 per year with over half coming from ODVA grants. This limited budget places severe limits on (1) the hours available for meeting and assisting our veterans and (2) recruiting of qualified and experienced counselors.

Here in Jefferson County we are blessed with two individuals who are very talented and dedicated to assisting veterans and spend countless hours volunteering their services beyond "normal" (paid) office hours. If/when we must hire a replacement it is going to VERY difficult to recruit someone willing to work less than full time at less than a living wage.

Measure 96 was passed with an overwhelming majority of the voters. This measure, as written, was to AUGMENT the existing ODVA budget. It was not intended to be a replacement. Please fund ODVAs budget as intended by measure 96.

As noted above, veteran compensation in Oregon has more than doubled in the last decade. How/why did this happen? Our county VSOs have had a HUGE impact. I consider funding for our veterans programs an investment in our future. Is there any other programs in the budget that will return this much money to the State?

Leonard (Len) Parsons 380 SW 5th St. #458 Madras, OR 97741 (541) 980-9474

Hello—

My name is Ingrid Sanchez. Thank you for the opportunity to speak today.

I am a first generation college student living here in Madras, attending Central Oregon Community College, and receiving the Oregon Promise Grant. I am so grateful for the opportunity to attend community college here in Madras. Having the opportunity to go to community college here and have it be affordable is very important for me in reaching my educational and career goals. I do not think I would be able to go to college if community college was not available here in Madras. I go to school full time and work full time to help cover the costs of school not covered by my grants. I hope that you will find additional funding for community colleges so that we can continue to access needed college programs, classes and services without having to pay higher tuition rates or loose community college access here in Madras as that will make it very difficult for me and my community to reach our educational and career goals. Good Afternoon-

My name is Perla Valerio. Thank you for the opportunity to speak today.

I am a first generation college student living here in Madras, attending Central Oregon Community College (COCC), and receiving the Oregon Promise Grant. Without the opportunity to attend COCC through both Oregon Promise funds and low tuition costs I would not be going to college, or it might take me many years to complete a 2 year degree as I cannot afford to take out loans. I recognize that my community college degree in Criminal Justice is going to make a great difference in my community. As a first year and first generation COCC college student, I am here asking that the State Legislature come together and do everything you can to find funding to keep community college here in Madras accessible and affordable. My peers and I, and our entire community need this community college.