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## 2011 Adopt-a-Legislator Advocacy Teams

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### *Activities for January 2011*

The 2011 Legislative Session started with the Governor's Inauguration on January 10th. Legislators were at the Capitol during that week, and then returned to their home district (your community) for the remainder of the month. This provides an opportunity to make personal connections with your adopted legislator, arrange a personal meeting, attend their community events and help them understand the importance of DD services and how budget cuts impact the citizens in their own district.

**☐ Email your legislator a greeting that celebrates the start of this legislative session on January 10th Inauguration Day!**

***Special Tips:** Email subject lines should be person-centered and community-based rather than issue focused. Example: "As you begin the 2011 legislative session, thank you from..." Insert your name or city. In the message mention that you appreciate their leadership, remind him/her that developmental disability services and budgets directly affect lives of people in their district (give examples); Ask to meet with him/her when they return to your district to discuss this important issue (perhaps to visit your organization, meet your family or just chat over a cup of coffee).*

**☐ E-subscribe to your adopted legislator's online newsletters and announcements.**

***Special Tips:** Become familiar with the state legislature website [www.leg.state.or.us](http://www.leg.state.or.us), and click on "e-subscribe" (right margin) to sign up for your adopted legislator's announcements.*

**☐ After you have connected with your legislator, join their online social networking groups on Twitter and Facebook.**

***Special Tips:** Also become a DD Coalition "friend" on Facebook and follow us on Twitter to receive reminders and updates on what is going on throughout the month! [www.facebook.com-OregonDDCoalition](http://www.facebook.com-OregonDDCoalition) and <http://twitter.com/ddcoalition>*

## January Adopt-a-Legislator Activities (Continued)

**❑ If possible, attend a DD Coalition State Budget Cuts Community Forum in Eugene, Portland or Medford this month.**

***Special Tips:** Individuals, families, providers, direct support workers, brokerage staff and advocates are encouraged to attend these forums to get detailed information about proposed state budget cuts to DD services. Download this [flyer](#) for more information.*

**❑ Register for an upcoming Legislative Advocacy Days Training.**

***Special Tips:** Download this [flyer](#) and sign up early for these interactive trainings at the Capitol that provide advocates with information on how ideas become law in Oregon, how to track bills, testify in legislative hearings, and connect with legislators.*

Please send an advocacy update to the GO Project Coordinator, Cheryl Cisneros via email at [info@oregonddcoalition.org](mailto:info@oregonddcoalition.org) as activities are completed.

**Now, Let's GO!**