



GO! LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

April 4, 2011

There are three full months left in the 2011 Legislative Session and depending on your perspective, it is either a very short time or way too long!!

Budget

The Co-Chairs of the Ways and Means Committee issued their [initial budget](#) this past week. In very broad terms, this budget identified the framework for the coming budget decisions. They proposed specific amounts for all the major funding areas, such as Human Services, Corrections, and Education. The funding for actual programs is still being negotiated. It is expected that the Education budget will be the first one passed, perhaps as early as this coming week. Additionally, the Co-Chairs established a large ending balance designed to cushion the budget if an additional downturn in the economy occurs in the second year of the biennium.

➤ No final decisions about the DD budget have been announced and advocacy with the members of the Ways and Means Human Services Subcommittee, legislative leadership, and your own Representative and Senator continues to be important!

Passed in the Senate Last Week

- **SB 3** will require all materials used in education to use the term “intellectual disability” rather than mental retardation.

Bills of Interest for the Week of April 4 – 8

Remember you can listen to any hearings live or archived by logging on the Capitol website. You can hear the testimony at <http://www.leg.state.or.us/listn/>.

Monday:

- **Death Penalty Bills** - A number of bills that relate to the death penalty are being heard in the Senate Judiciary Committee – 8:00 AM HR 343
- **SB 579** – This bill relates to the appointment of a patient advocate to make health care decisions. There has been a great deal of controversy on this issue and the DD Coalition and Disability Rights Oregon will oppose this bill. –Senate Health, Human Services, and Rural Policy Committee—3:00 PM HR A

Tuesday:

- **Public Hearing on Vocational Rehabilitation Budget – Ways and Means Human Services Subcommittee** 5:30 HR F

Wednesday:

- **HB 2600** – This bill will put Adult Support Services and brokerages into statute. House Human Services Committee.
- **HB 3434** – This bill would allow the removal of some money from the Fairview Trust. Several amendments may be proposed. There are many legislators who are opposed to the removal of any dollars from the Trust. The intent of the bill is to force discussion on the issue rather than to simply have the Trust raided as proposed in the Governor's Budget. The Hearing is scheduled as a work session only. 8:00AM House Human Services Committee, HR D
- **HB 2939** – Seclusion and Restraint bill is scheduled for a work session in the House Education Committee at 1:00 PM in HR E

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

We continue to encourage you to stay in contact with your legislators about the impact of the reductions in the DD budget and proposed legislation that is important to you. Talking points, legislative lists, and fact sheets can be downloaded from the DD Coalition website, use the Quick Links below.

Quick Links: [Coalition Website](#) | [Fact Sheets](#) | [Bill Tracking Report](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Email](#)

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