



GO! LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

May 21, 2011

LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

Deadlines are fast approaching as we head into the home stretch of the legislative session. **May 23rd** is the deadline for committee chairs to post agendas for work sessions on bills from the second chamber. **June 1st** is the deadline for committees to hold work sessions on bills and pass those bills out of committee in the second chamber. *Note that these deadlines do not apply to the Ways & Means, Revenue, Rules and Redistricting committees.*

CO-CHAIRS' BUDGET

The Co-Chairs' budget should be released by the end of May. The good news is that the May revenue forecast issued last week predicted an increase in revenues of about \$129 million for the 2011-2013 biennium. Legislative leaders have publicly stated that they will prioritize the human services budget for any additional funds that become available. We have seen some proposed budget restorations to DD programs and services but until the budget is finalized and made public, we cannot be certain about the amount of the funding restored and where it will go.

UPDATE ON LEGISLATION

HB 2600 – This is the bill that would put the Adult Support Services (Staley Agreement) service structure and values into statute. The bill had its first public hearing before the Joint Ways and Means Committee (Human Services Subcommittee) this past week. ***This is a very important piece of legislation for the developmental disability community!*** Please urge the members of the committee (listed below) and other legislators to support HB 2600 and let them know the importance of these programs and services to you.

Sen. Alan C Bates, Co-Chair—sen.alanbates@state.or.us

Rep. Tim Freeman, Co-Chair—rep.timfreeman@state.or.us

Rep. Tina Kotek, Co-Chair—rep.tinakotek@state.or.us

Rep. Mitch Greenlick, Co-Vice Chair—rep.mitchgreenlick@state.or.us

Rep. Kim Thatcher, Co-Vice Chair—rep.kimthatcher@state.or.us

Sen. Laurie Monnes Anderson—sen.lauriemonnesanderson@state.or.us

Sen. Jackie Winters—sen.jackiewinters@state.or.us

HB 3650A — This is a key piece of health care legislation that sets the stage for implementation of the “Health Care Transformation” proposed by the Governor in his balanced budget. The Joint Health Care Transformation Committee, after seven weeks of weekly public hearings and much work and debate, has passed a form of this bill out of committee and moved it on to the Joint Ways and Means Committee for further tweaking and fiscal analysis. This legislation is the centerpiece for transformation of Oregon’s healthcare delivery system. Passing it this session is critical to the success of this effort.

HB 2939 – The Seclusion and Restraint bill has had several hearings in the Senate Education and Workforce Development Committee, and further amendments are being considered. This bill has been carried over to next week and will have a work session on **Tuesday, May 24th at 1:00 p.m., HR B**. This bill will help our schools provide a safe learning environment for all children and staff. We encourage continued advocacy in support of this bill.

SB 579 — This is a bill that we are *opposing* because it would allow a hospital to appoint a health care provider to provide informed consent for a patient who is determined to be incapable of providing consent (in non-emergency situations) when they are unable to find a guardian, family or friends of the individual. We believe this is a conflict of interest. This bill is scheduled for a public hearing and possible work session on **Monday, May 23rd at 3:00 p.m., HR D**.

SB 398 — This bill modifies the crimes of intimidation (1st and 2nd degree) to include offenses committed because of the offender’s perception of a victim’s disability. The bill has its first hearing before the House Judiciary Committee on **Monday, May 23rd at 1:00 p.m., HR 343**.

GO! PROJECT ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

Throughout this legislative session, the Grassroots Oregon “GO!” Project has worked to help advocates build their legislative advocacy skills, connect with their legislators and nurture interest in developmental disabilities issues through various activities. To see what have been doing, visit the [GO! Project Advocacy Activities](#) section of the DD Coalition website. There is still work to be done in the coming weeks, but as legislators begin wrap up their committee work and make their final decisions of the session, we want to show appreciation for their efforts. Be sure to download and send the “Print and GO” [Thank You Card](#) featured in the Adopt-a-Legislator activities this month.

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