



GO! BULLETIN

IMPORTANT ADVOCACY ACTION NEEDED:

Email the Joint Ways & Means Committee this week to request current service funding levels for Developmental Disabilities Services. Include your name and city in your email to

waysandmeans.budget@oregonlegislature.gov



Advocacy at the State Budget Road Shows



The Joint Committee on Ways and Means held its last "Budget Road Show" event in Tillamook on this past Friday. Not only did developmental disability advocates show up, wearing yellow, they actually were lucky enough to be selected to give testimony during the hearing, and they did a great job!

Thanks so much to all the advocates who made the effort to get to these road show events across the state to let the Ways and Means Committee Members know the importance of developmental disability services in your lives. The stories you shared make a huge difference!

Sharing Your Story

This session we are asking legislators to fully fund DD Services to protect the health and safety of Oregonians with IDD, and their access to a full life at home, work and in their community by providing the right services in the right amount at the right time - No more, no less.

When contacting legislators, begin with your your name, the city you live in and why you care about DD services. Specify the services that have made a positive difference in your life with a quick example about how the services help you. Include a request that the legislator supports Oregonians with Developmental Disabilities through continued funding. End with an expression of appreciation.

If you want to share a copy of your story with the Coalition, you can also email it to oregoniddcoalition@gmail.com. We would love to read your thoughts about the importance of funding developmental disability services in Oregon.

To find your State Senator and State Representative, use the link below:
www.oregonlegislature.gov/findyourlegislator/leg-districts.html

The Next Phase of the State Budget Process

The Joint Ways and Means Subcommittees will continue working through each Agency's budget, starting with a high-level overview ("Phase 1") followed by a deeper dive into the detail of agency budgets ("Phase 2"), followed by an opportunity for Public Testimony on the Agency's budget, and then a wrap-up. At that point, the Agency's budget will be finalized and voted on by the Subcommittee, and then passed out to the Full Ways and Means Committee for a vote, before it heads to the floor of each chamber.

The Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Services has been hearing the Oregon Health Authority budget for several weeks and should be finishing up with that by the end of this week. After that, it will be working the Department of Human Services budget ([SB 5526](#)) for the next month or so. The Phase 2 presentations for the Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS) and Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) are preliminarily scheduled as follows: ODDS March 21-22 and VR March 27. Note: Public testimony on these budgets will take place sometime after the agency presentations, but not necessarily the very next day.

The Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Education started hearing the Oregon Department of Education budgets ([HB 5516](#) and [HB 5517](#)) on February 28th, and the committee will likely be hearing public testimony on these budgets in mid-March, date to be announced.

Upcoming DD Advocacy Days at the Capitol

Join us in advocacy during the 2017 Legislative Session at the Oregon State Capitol in Salem. The Oregon Intellectual Developmental Disability Coalition's GO Project Advocacy Team will be there on the following Mondays from 10AM to 2PM to offer information, training and support.

March 20: Focus on Families & Regional Family Networks

April 10: Focus on Early Intervention & Early Childhood Special Education

May 1: Focus on Housing | Fairview Trust Fund

May 22: Focus on Case Management & Systems Efficiency

June 12: Session Wrap-Up Event: Focus on DD Services Funding

Schedule visits with your State Senator and State Representative to discuss the importance of DD Services. Wear something yellow to show your support for DD Services and check in at the DD Advocacy Headquarters (Room 257) before and

Policy Bills and Upcoming Hearings of Interest This Week:

Below are some of the bills we are tracking with hearings coming up this week. You can view the current [Coalition Priority Bills Report](#) to stay updated.

March 6th - Monday

8:30 AM / H-170: Joint Committee on Ways and Means (Education Subcommittee) continuing "Phase 1" of Oregon Department of Education agency budget presentations: [SB 5516](#) ("Grant in Aid" budget); [SB 5517](#) (State School Fund budget).

1:00 pm / HR D: Senate Committee on Human Services -

- Public hearing on [SB 363](#), which directs the Department of Education to conduct a study on methods for improving the safety of work environments for staff involved in special education and related services.
- Work sessions on [SB 275](#) (relating to requests for copy of health information for individual appealing denial of Social Security disability benefits) and [SB 104](#) (modifies provisions relating to registry of persons who provide care in certain facilities).

1:00 pm / HR A: House Committee on Revenue public hearing on [HB 2052](#), which directs the Legislative Revenue Officer to study the exemption from ad valorem property taxation of property of nonprofit corporations.

1:00 pm / HR E: House Committee on Business and Labor public hearing on [HB 2193](#), which requires an employer to pay an employee the equivalent of at least four hours of work if the employee is scheduled or called in to work but, due to employer, does not work entire shift.

1:00 pm / HR D: Senate Committee on Human Services work session on [SB 231](#), which Establishes a Task Force on Student Mental Health Support.

3:00 pm / HR F: House Committee on Education public hearing on [HB 2720](#), which Directs the Department of Education to conduct a study related to certain virtual public charter schools.

March 7th - Tuesday

8:00 / HR E: House Committee on Human Services and Housing -

- Public hearing on [HB 2216](#) (requires Department of Human Services to

- adopt rules to establish Oregon Foster Children's Sibling Bill of Rights).
- Public hearing on [HB 2684](#) (establishes minimum hourly wage rate of \$15 per hour for employees who provide direct care to residents of residential training facility or residential training home).
- Public hearing on [HB 2685](#) (requires Department of Human Services or designee of department to offer adult with intellectual or developmental disability who qualifies for comprehensive services at least one placement other than congregate living arrangement).
- Work session on [HB 2170](#) (establishes Office of Oregon Ombudsmen, containing Long Term Care Ombudsman, Residential Facilities Ombudsman, Foster Parent Ombudsman, Foster Child Ombudsman and Oregon Public Guardian and Conservator).

8:30 AM / H-170: **Joint Committee on Ways and Means (Education Subcommittee)** continues "Phase 1" of Oregon Department of Education agency budget presentations: [SB 5516](#) ("Grant in Aid" budget); and [SB 5517](#) (State School Fund budget).

March 8th - Wednesday

8:30 AM / H-170: **Joint Committee on Ways and Means (Education Subcommittee)** continues "Phase 1" of Oregon Department of Education agency budget presentations: [SB 5516](#) ("Grant in Aid" budget); and [SB 5517](#) (State School Fund budget).

1:00 PM / HR D: **Senate Committee on Human Services -**

- Public hearing on [SB 265](#) (directs Department of Human Services to conduct monthly, in-person visits with child or ward in substitute care that include updates on academic status and progress).
- Public hearing on [SB 834](#) (requires Department of Human Services to develop and present proposal for creation of human rights commission to interim committees of Legislative Assembly related to human services and health no later than September 1, 2017).
- Work session on [SB 239](#) (establishes process to determine consent of resident of residential care facility or adult foster home to individually based limitation of certain rights).

1:00 PM / HR 343: **House Committee on Judiciary** work session on [HB 2630](#) (makes changes to Oregon guardianship laws to assure adequate safeguards for respondents and protected persons).

3:00 PM / HR E: **House Committee on Health Care -**

- Public hearing on [HB 2393](#) (specifies case manager's duties in event that case manager receives notice that person for whom case manager provides services will have life-sustaining procedures withheld or withdrawn).
- Public hearing on [HB 2392](#) (modifies requirements for health benefit plan coverage of hearing loss treatments).
- Work session on [HB 2319](#) (Creates Mental Health Regulatory Agency)

3:00 PM / HR C: House Committee on Education -

- Public hearing on [HB 2649](#) (directs State Board of Education to adopt by rule complaint process to report school district policy in violation of state law prohibiting harassment, intimidation, bullying and cyber bullying).
- Public hearing on [HB 2543](#) (removes percentage cap on calculations for State School Fund distributions for students in average daily membership who are eligible for special education as child with disability).

3:00 PM / HR E: House Committee on Health Care - Work session on [HB 2304](#), which adds peer support specialist, family support specialist and youth support specialist to membership of Traditional Health Workers Commission.

March 9th - Thursday

8:30 AM / H-170: Joint Committee on Ways and Means (Education Subcommittee) continues "Phase 1" of Oregon Department of Education agency budget presentations: [SB 5516](#) ("Grant in Aid" budget); and [SB 5517](#) (State School Fund budget).

House Committee on Higher Education and Workforce Development public hearing on [HB 2439](#), which allows certain students who have not received high school diploma to attend community college and to use moneys that would have paid for public school to be paid for books, tuition and fees.

Interested in tracking bills and hearings?

- Use the Oregon Legislature's [Capitol e-Subscribe](#) service to receive bill alerts for individual bills as they move through the legislative process, receive committee agendas, news from members of the legislative body and more.
- You can also watch or listen to live or archived [video and audio](#) of Oregon Senate and House chamber sessions and Committee hearings.

Continued State & Federal Advocacy Efforts are Needed!

Please contact your

STATE & FEDERAL

Legislators

STATE ADVOCACY



FEDERAL ADVOCACY



Contact Oregon State Legislators to request **Continued Service Funding Levels for DD Services** including:

- Case Management
- Family Networks
- Fairview Housing Trust
- Raise DSP Wages

Contact United States Legislators to request **Continuation of the Affordable Care Act** which includes:

- Pre-Existing Conditions Coverage
- No Lifetime Benefits Caps
- K Plan Funding** for Medicaid Services such as attendant care, home modifications and vital services for children and families.

You have

ONE State Senator

ONE State Representative

Elected Officials - X

Senate House Congress

State Representative Name

District Number

Contact Information

Here is what your results may look like

You have

ONE US Representative

TWO US Senators *

To find your State Senator and State Representative, use the link below:

www.oregonlegislature.gov/findyourlegislator/leg-districts.html .

*Oregon has TWO US Senators: [Jeff Merkely](#) and [Ron Wyden](#)

March is Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month!

In honor of Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month we are joining the #SidebySide photo rally with the Oregon Council on Developmental Disabilities!

To participate share a photo of a person with developmental disabilities alongside a friend, co-worker, sibling, family member or other community member. When you share the photo, write a caption that captures the spirit of the #SidebySide campaign. For example, if you send in a picture of you dancing with your neighbor, you might caption it "Dancing is best when you are #SidebySide with your best friend!" Be creative! Then share your photo!

There are three ways to share your photo:

- Post it on the Council's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/OrCouncilDD/. Use the hashtag #SidebySide
- Tweet it to <https://twitter.com/OCDD> with hashtag #SidebySide
- Email it to Ryley.Newport@ocdd.org.



MARCH is
**DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
AWARENESS MONTH:**

Life Side by Side

#DDawareness17

Email:

oregoniddcoalition@gmail.com

Website:

www.oregoniddcoalition.org

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/OregonIDDCoalition/>