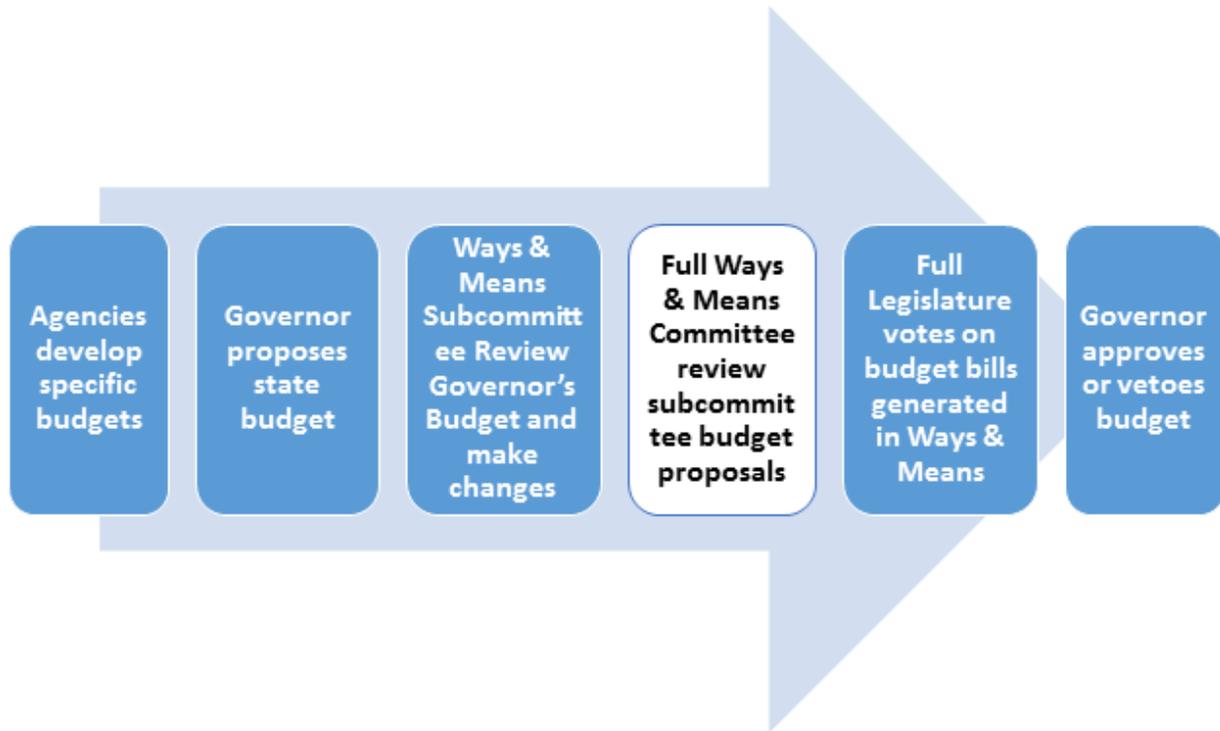




GO! BULLETIN



Proposed State Budget Reductions

We are about halfway through the 2017 Legislative Session, and the legislature is busy creating the state budget for the 2017-2019 biennium. The diagram above gives a an overview of the process the state goes through every two years to produce a balanced budget.

Where are we in this process? The Joint Ways and Means Committee is working with the subcommittees to finalize the budgets. Now is a great time for advocacy because legislators need to hear what is important to you to guide their budget work.

This past week, the Co-Chairs of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means released the [Ways and Means Co-Chairs 2017-19 Target Reduction Lists](#)." This additional budget document from the Co-Chairs is a more detailed follow-up to their "[Co-Chairs Existing Resources Framework Budget, 2017-19](#)" that came out a few

months ago.

The reductions list is a step in the process. This is not the final state budget, and these targeted reductions have not been voted on by the legislature. Legislators need to hear from you about what is important to fund in the budget.

What are these targeted reductions? The Co-Chairs described them as budget actions that will need to be taken to meet their budget targets "if no additional revenue for state programs and services is available this session." As stated by the Co-Chairs, this is still a "discussion document" and "a starting point from which the Subcommittees can begin their work as they prepare agency budgets for the 2017-19 biennium."

In other words, this targeted reductions list is additional information that will help guide and shape the discussions going forward around the need for additional revenues versus the need to contain the costs of government.

The Co-Chairs stated the numbers on the targeted reduction lists would likely change in the coming weeks as more information becomes available including the results of the next revenue forecast to be released on May 16, 2017, which is traditionally used as the basis for the next two-year budget.

The targeted reductions list includes program reductions for intellectual and developmental disabilities in the following areas:

- Narrow program eligibility (would cut \$28.7 mil)-proposal would count parental income for children's eligibility; also require 3 limitation areas instead of 2 for adults and children's eligibility.
- Restrict personal support worker overtime (would cut \$8.0 mil)-a reduction in overtime would decrease the cost per case
- Eliminate bed hold payments (would cut \$5.7 mil)--affects group homes, supported living, and children's services
- Cut regional staff supporting CDDPs (would cut \$4.8 mil)- Regional Programs do a number of things, including providing crisis support and training
- Decrease brokerage and CDDP equity by 4% (would cut \$3.5 mil)--drop from 95% to 91%; affects operational funding and ability of CDDPs and Brokerages to serve clients

- Eliminate family support program (would cut \$2.6 mil)--cut limited support to families; includes 3.47 positions that would be cut
- Close three Eliot homes (would cut \$1.5 mil)-these crisis homes are part of SACU; includes 24 positions that would be cut

In addition, reductions have also been targeted for the following:

- Vocational Rehabilitation: Decrease client services (would cut \$2.4 mil)--eliminate 21 positions; use prioritized waitlist for services
- Oregon Health Plan: No longer cover ACA expansion population (would cut \$256 mil)-means about 350,000 low-income adults would lose health care coverage; would also result in the loss of about \$5 billion in federal matching funds during the 2017-19 biennium.

What does this mean for the developmental disabilities community? It means your continued advocacy in support of developmental disability programs and services is needed now more than ever!

The Next DD Advocacy Day is May 1st

We are working on additional fact sheets for legislators on the impact of the proposed targeted reductions described above, and we are hoping that many of you are planning on joining us for our next DD Advocacy Day on May 1st to share this important information with them!

While the focus of this advocacy day was originally on Housing and the Fairview Trust, advocates are always welcome to join us and advocate on any issue, and your advocacy on the targeted reductions will be extremely important. The GO! Project Advocacy Team will be on hand in Room 257 of the Capitol Building to provide information, training and support for your visits. You can check in at the DD Advocacy Headquarters before and after your visits.

Each Advocacy Day includes:

- 11AM Training overview on the legislature and meeting your legislator
- Support to practice your talking points for your legislative meeting
- Support to get to your legislator's office and debrief after your meeting

Make appointments with your legislators and plan to join us for an important day of advocacy. It's quick and easy to find out who your State Senator and State Representative are at <http://www.oregonlegislature.gov/>

Please plan to join us on May 1st if you can, and don't forget to wear yellow to show your support of the DD Community!

Policy Bills and Hearings of Interest This Week:

Last Tuesday was another key deadline at the Capitol. Policy bills that did not receive a work session and pass out of committee in the chamber they originated in by the end of the day on April 18th died in committee.*

Now that the dust has settled and we've had a chance to review reports, it appears that about 50% of the bills the IDD Coalition was tracking or monitoring have died. The bills that survived are now making their way through floor votes and on to the other side of the Capitol building (if they hadn't made it there already). You can review a current report on the Legislative Advocacy Page of the Oregon IDD Coalition's Website:

<https://oregoniddcoalition.org/legislative-advocacy/>

*Note: As mentioned before, this deadline does not apply to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means, other joint committees, the Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue, House Committee on Revenue, and the Senate and House Committees on Rules. Bills that are assigned to these committees can be acted on right up until the end of the session.

Below are some of the bills we are tracking with hearings coming up this week.

April 24th - Monday

- 1:00 PM / HR D: Senate Committee on Human Services - Work session on HB 2216A (requires Department of Human Services to adopt rules to establish Oregon Foster Children's Sibling Bill of Rights). | Work session on HJM 4 (urges Congress to pass RAISE Family Caregivers Act)

April 25th - Tuesday

- 8:00 AM / HR E: House Committee on Human Services & Housing - Public hearing on SB 244A (establishes notification requirements of the Department of Human Services regarding reported or suspected abuses, deficiencies, violations or failures of child-caring agency to comply with full compliance requirements and regarding reports of suspected or two dropped off. | Public hearing on SB 104 (modifies provisions relating to the registry of persons who provide care in certain Facilities)
- 1:00 PM / HR B: Senate Committee on Health Care - Public hearing on HB2432 (Directs Health Licensing Office to issue license to engage in practice of art therapy to qualified applicants)
- 1:00 PM / HR 343: House Committee on Judiciary - Public Hearing and work session on SB 82 (sanctions and punishment for violations of rules regulating conduct of youth offenders and other persons placed in physical custody of Oregon Youth Authority may not include placing youth offender or others in custody alone in locked room).
- 3:00 PM / HR C: Senate Committee on Education - Public hearing on HB 257 (alters process for resolving student complaints against certain schools; permits higher education coordinating commission to refer student complaints to other entities for resolution; exempts student complaints from disclosure under public records law.

April 26th - Wednesday

- 8:30AM HR F - Joint Committee on Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee - Continuing public hearings on HB 5026 (OHA Budget Bill) includes invited testimony from Oregon Health Authority Behavioral Health System.

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.

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