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2009 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

The commission recognizes the reality the Oregon Legislature faces in these hard times. Therefore, as you struggle to allocate scarce resources, please keep in mind those most in need. Your careful consideration of the following is requested:

- Seniors and People with Disabilities (SPD) assistance to disabled and the frail elderly (HB 2391, HB 2878, SB 548) - These bills will establish support services for the elderly, disabled and their caregivers. They provide for care in a home environment and reduce the need for very expensive institutional care.
- Protective Proceedings (HB 2883) This bill creates a Public
 Guardianship and Conservatorship task force. The bill provides for a
 two-year study of Oregon's existing statute and system and for an
 analysis of nationwide programs. The goal is to recommend a
 workable system for indigent or low-asset Oregonians who require
 guardianship. No public funds are requested.
- Health Care Reform Many elements of the Oregon Health Fund Board recommendations would enhance the quantity, quality and economy of the Oregon health system. The commission supports actions that improve the availability, access and affordability of health services that are in the best interest of Oregon seniors.
- Other legislation of significance is:
 - o Restoration of the General Assistance Program (HB 2051)
 - o The Family Paid Leave Act (HB 3160)
 - Senior and Disabled Transportation (HB 2122, HB 2120, HB 2075, HB 2379)

Updated 3/5/09