

Human Services

LONG TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN

	1999-2001 Actuals	2001-03 Legislatively Adopted at Close of Session	2001-03 Legislatively Approved through Fifth Special Session	2003-05 Governor's Balanced
General Fund	\$544,131	\$611,153	\$600,869	\$587,050
Lottery Funds	0	0	0	0
Other Funds	1,231,489	1,279,938	1,296,351	1,458,023
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0
Other Funds (Nonlimited)	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds (Nonlimited)	0	0	0	0
Total Funds	\$1,775,620	\$1,891,091	\$1,897,220	\$2,045,073
Positions	8	8	8	8
Full-time Equivalent	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00

Overview

The Long Term Care Ombudsman (LTCO):

- Investigates complaints made by, or on behalf of, long-term care facility residents.
- Monitors the implementation of federal, state, and local laws, rules, and policies that affect long-term care residents.
- Promotes quality long-term care.
- Protects resident rights.
- Makes recommendations to the Legislature and the Governor about long-term care issues.

The LTCO relies on about 280 volunteers to visit the more than 41,000 residents who receive long-term care in Oregon. For some of these residents, the LTCO volunteer may be their only regular visitor. Of these volunteers, about 200 are trained by LTCO's full-time staff to protect the resident's rights and assist the resident in resolving complaints. The full-time staff also deal with the more complex resident complaints.

Balanced Budget

The Governor's balanced budget for LTCO is \$2,045,073 total funds. This is a 7.8 percent increase over the 2001-03 Legislatively Approved Budget through the Fifth Special Session. The balanced budget maintains the agency's core programs, but reduces the budget to account for Services and Supplies savings that occurred during 2001-03. The Governor's balanced budget also uses \$15,000 of one-time beginning balance funds to offset General Fund expenditures in 2003-05.

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Revenue

The LTCO's expenses are eligible for federal match under Medicaid and the Older Americans Act. General Fund dollars appropriated to LTCO are sent to the Department of Human Services (DHS). DHS matches this transfer with Federal Funds and then returns the total to LTCO. The Medicaid match rate is 50 percent state, and 50 percent federal. The Older Americans Act revenues are matched 25 percent state, and 75 percent federal. Once returned, the LTCO spends the resources as Other Funds. In the past, LTCO has also received private donations.