



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

## Department of Human Services

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### **The Legislative Fiscal Office Required the Department of Human Services to Produce a 15% reduction list for the 2017-19 ways and means process**



The reduction options presented in this document are not intended to reflect the policy or program recommendations of the agency. The Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) is acutely aware that the reduction options on this list have significant consequences for Oregonians and the communities in which they live. The agency is -- and has been -- engaged in ongoing search for efficiencies that allow us to reduce costs and maximize resources with minimal impact to clients. We also work to ensure that as services to clients are reduced because of reductions, that we also reduce our infrastructure and administrative overhead concurrently.

#### Guiding Principles

In approaching these reductions, DHS was guided by a set of priorities in making proposed reductions. However, to reach the targeted reduction levels for the Department – which totals more than \$486 million in General Fund – it was not possible to reflect all of the following principles and priorities in the reduction list:

- For all programs, the agency looked closely at client safety and stability, preserving the infrastructure of programs and the provider-systems that serve clients, maintenance of effort (MOE) issues, legal risk, cross-program impact, cost shifting, and what the reduction would mean in terms of the loss of federal matching funds.
- DHS looked closely at whether repeated reductions to programs no longer made sense, and whether it was time to consider the elimination of some programs in order to preserve others.
- In Child Welfare programs, DHS prioritized prevention activities and services to keep children safe at home and out of foster care over those further into the child welfare system, such as adoption and guardianship.
- In Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities programs, DHS prioritized continuing programs and services for those clients in long-term care. DHS also made every effort to consider reductions that would not move people into higher cost settings but could keep them at home and in their communities.
- In Self Sufficiency, Intellectual and Developmental Disability and Vocational Rehabilitation programs, DHS prioritized services and programs that helped support and preserve family stability and to maintain employment outcomes for Oregonians.
- In Aging and People with Disabilities programs, DHS prioritized keeping as much of Oregon's high-quality system in place as possible – that is, prioritizing home and community-based services.

*“Assisting People to Become Independent, Healthy and Safe”*