

SENATE BILL 770 HEALTH SERVICES CLUSTER MEETING
SALEM, OREGON
FEBRUARY 16, 2005

Attendance

Richard Acevedo	Department of Human Services (DHS)—Director’s Office
Evonne Alderete	DHS – Director’s Office
Tom Bird in Ground	Chemawa Indian Health
Judy Bowan	DHS - SPD
Jeannette Burket	DHS – CAF, SDA 3
Deborah Cateora	DHS – Health Services, OMAP
Janet Clements	Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs
Caroline Cruz	DHS – Health Services
Dee Dewey	Klamath Tribal Health
Jim Edge	DHS – HS, OMAP
Mariah Forrest	DHS – CAF, VR
Susan Frey	Yellowhawk Tribal Health Center
David Fullerton	Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
Linda Hettinga	Yellowhawk Tribal Health Center
Ron Hudson	Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
Leroy Jackson	Klamath Tribal Health
Mark Johnston	Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, & Siuslaw
Ernie Kimball	Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
Jack Lawson	Oregon Youth Authority
Kelle Little	Coquille Indian Tribe
Greg Malkasian	Consumer and Business Services
Nancy McCrary	Confederated Tribes of Siletz
Mary McNevins	DHS - CAF
Jackie Mercer	Native American Rehabilitation Association
Sherry Milligan	Klamath Tribal Health
Judy Muschamp	Confederated Tribes of Siletz
Jim Quaid	Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs
Roberta Queahpama	HIS – Warm Springs
Jim Roberts	NW Portland Area Indian Health Board
Linda Robertson	Coquille Indian Health Center
Barabara Sam	Burns Paiute Tribal Council
Anya Sekino	Oregon Commission on Children and Families
Sharon Stanphill	Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians
Michael Stickler	DHS – Health Services
Gary Weeks	DHS – Director’s Office
Bob Worley	DHS – HS, OMAP

Introductions/Traditional Opening

A traditional opening was given and then Greg Malkasian welcomed the group to their facility and roundtable introductions were made.

DHS Budget Update (Weeks)

Weeks update the group on the budget process. The Governor's proposed budget was released on December 1 and reflects resources available to balance all services, statewide. The proposed budget:

- Represents a 9 percent increase in General Fund from the 2003-05 biennium
- Represents a 3.5 percent increase in Total Funds from the 2003-05 biennium
- Would allow DHS to keep programs in tact:
 - Holds the line in mental health services in both community and institutional services
 - Holds the per capita rate for Public Health to what it is today
 - The Oregon Health Plan (OHP) plus category would not include vision or dental coverage
 - Alcohol and drug services for prevention and treatment would remain at the level it is today
 - Maintains the Temporary Assistant to Needy Families and Child Welfare programs
 - Does include an enhancement that would allow DHS to work with the Department of Justice to hire additional Assistant Attorney Generals to represent DHS in court in place of caseworkers
 - Holds ground in the areas of foster care and adoptions.

The biggest area of challenge is in the long-term care system. The current long-term care system allows for flexibility and choice in services (in-home, nursing facilities, and adult foster homes). The proposed budget would begin to narrow these choices. The proposed budget still allows for the level of care that is needed, it may not be what the client was receiving in the past. Oregon has one of the fastest growing aged populations and the cost of long-term care will be overwhelming if something is not done now to suppress the costs.

The Ways and Means Committee is meeting four mornings a week to review the proposed budget. During phase 1 of this new legislative process the Department will talk about history of programs, who is by the programs served, the benefits of the programs, performance measures, the expected out-comes, and the prioritization of the programs included in the Governor's budget. There is a summary of the DHS budget available on the DHS web site.

DHS submitted 11 legislative concepts this session, which is down from past sessions. These proposed legislative changes are the ones the Department felt would have the most impact on the agency overall such as the implementation of the Medicaid Modernization Act.

On February 7 the President's proposed budget for FY 2006 was released. DHS has made a high level analysis of the budget. The most significant change is in the Medicaid program, which shows a reduction of \$60 billion over 10 years. This represents a \$60 million a year reduction in funds to DHS. The proposed budget also shows an increase in adoption incentives but a reduction in the foster care program. It is a budget that is meant to control costs.

To date OHP has not been as hot of a topic as it had been in the past two sessions. At this time it appears that there will be some change in the benefits but no major program changes are currently being reviewed. However, there is a provision in the President's proposed budget that would reduce provider taxes, which would directly decrease the number of OHP standard clients DHS could serve.

In the child welfare area there is push to change Title IV-E from an entitlement to a block grant. If there were a change in eligibility by the federal government this would directly effect on the tribes if this push for block grants goes through, Mary McNevins will continue to pass information on as she receives it.

Next Meeting & Adjourn

The next meeting will be held Wednesday, May 18, 2005. The location will be announced at a later date.