Cassandra SkinnerLopata named OLCC Chair

PORTLAND, Ore. – Cassandra SkinnerLopata (4th Congressional District) has been named Chair of the Oregon Liquor Control Commission’s board of commissioners. She was appointed by Gov. John Kitzhaber on July 5, 2011. SkinnerLopata has been a member of the OLCC’s board of commissioners since June 2009.

"Chair SkinnerLopata has brought a tremendous amount of insight to the Commission from her rich background in public health and law," says OLCC Executive Director Steve Pharo. "Her experience with children and families brings an important perspective to the board. We are looking forward to her leadership."

She is a graduate of the University of Oregon School of Law and is currently General Counsel and Medicaid Program Director for Agate Healthcare, the parent company of Lipa (Lane Individual Practice Association) and Trillium Community Health Plan, all located in Eugene. She has held positions on the Governor’s Council on Domestic Violence, the Lane County Human Rights Advisory Committee, and the board of directors for Breaking Free, a non-profit organization promoting empowerment and self-defense for women and girls. SkinnerLopata’s broad range of community service includes volunteering for the Attorney General’s Sexual Assault Task Force, Lane County Legal Aid, and several programs with the Oregon State Bar and the University of Oregon School of Law. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for Head Start of Lane County, the Advisory Board for the Stop Violence Against Women Clinic Project and the Board of Directors for Oregon Women Lawyers. SkinnerLopata was recently recognized as one of Eugene Register Guard Blue Chip’s 20 under 40 for 2010.

SkinnerLopata replaces Philip D. Lang as the Chairman of the Oregon Liquor Control Commission. Lang was appointed by Governor Kitzhaber as the OLCC Chair in February 1998 and announced his retirement in June 2011.

The five citizen commissioners are the policy-making body of the OLCC. They meet monthly for one or two days to make decisions on liquor licenses, rules, contested case hearings and appointments of liquor store agents. Commission meetings are held every other month at OLCC’s main office, 9079 SE McLoughlin Blvd., Room 103A in Portland. Subsequent months, the meetings are held via phone. Agenda items can be obtained on-line at http://www.oregon.gov/OLCC/public_meetings.shtml

Photo available: http://www.flickr.com/photos/oregonliquorcontrolcommission/3730779438/in/set-72157622012149776/

Did you know that in the last two years, the OLCC distributed more than $343 million to Oregon’s General Fund, Cities, Counties, and Drug and Alcohol Abuse Programs? See the distribution of dollars on OLCC’s Website.