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The Arc Advocate

January 2003

A Letter From Governor Kitzhaber

Dear Friend,

This month brings the end of my time as governor of Oregon. For eight years I have been proud to serve the people of this state.

I am writing to you today to urge you to join me in voting YES on Measure 28. It is an important step for Oregon's economic health.

That's because the key to economic recovery lies in better education, better infrastructure, better social services—the kinds of things that make a society livable and attractive.

With Measure 28, we can keep these vital services intact to help get Oregon back on track.

I am not alone in my belief that we need solid state services for economic well-being. Just last month more than thirteen hundred leaders of business and industry—men and women from all over Oregon—gathered in Portland at the 2002 Leadership Summit.

In their final report, these CEOs and real world managers recommended that the State of Oregon spend more on education in order to build a world-class system to prepare our young people for college. They recommended strengthening Oregon's investment in engineering programs and computer science programs.

They urged investment in roads, highways, bridges, and other aspects of Oregon's infrastructure. In short, these CEOs stressed that a growing economy relies on state-of-the-art public services.

I know times are difficult for everyone in Oregon. Like all the other supporters of Measure 28, I agree that government, too, must tighten its belt. And it has. Thus far, we have cut state spending by more than \$700 million, and we've scheduled additional cuts of nearly \$200 million. These cuts have deprived education of badly needed funds. We've also made deep cuts in the budgets of the university system. We've cut funds for work force development. We've cut critical human services programs and public safety programs.

Now, unless we pass Ballot Measure 28 and undertake to retool our system of raising revenue, our only alternative is borrowing—issuing bonds or borrowing against future revenues. That is not a responsible alternative. It's not even a solution. In effect, it's a backhanded way of raising taxes, for it lays the burden of paying back the money on future taxpayers.

Measure 28 is a responsible solution. For a temporary surcharge of less than \$9.50 per month for most

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A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
 ADVOCATING FOR AND PROVIDING SERVICES, AS NEEDED, TO INDIVIDUALS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND THEIR FAMILIES.

Regular Meetings

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| Membership Committee
Louise Teater's Home
1st Tuesday | 9 AM |
| The Arc Board Meeting
Senior Center
1st Thursday | 7:30 PM |
| Resale Committee
Arc Office
3rd Monday | 10 AM |
| Safety Committee
Arc Office
3rd Tuesday | 10 AM |
| Bingo Committee
Springfield
3rd Friday | 11 AM |
| Finance Committee
Arc Office
Last Tuesday | 5:15 PM |

A Letter From Governor Kitzhaber continued...

Oregonians we can restore \$313 million worth of cuts in education, public safety and human services that have already been scheduled.

It's just common sense. We cannot expect to recover our prosperity or our competitiveness if we let our education system slide into mediocrity. We cannot expect to attract new investors to Oregon by letting our correction system collapse, or stripping law enforcement agencies of their effectiveness. We cannot expect new businesses to relocate in Oregon if we allow our infrastructure to crumble and fray around the edges, or if we ignore the needs of the less fortunate and the vulnerable.

With Measure 28, we have a chance to stand up and say that we believe in our state. We have the chance to stop the decline and refuse to borrow from our children's future.

BIG Value for Small Tax Increase

BEFORE YOU VOTE on Measure 28, the temporary (3-year) income tax increase, consider what your extra dollars will buy.

Examples of services your extra tax dollars will buy:

- Community mental health services for 5,500 adults and children
- 101 group homes for 427 people with developmental disabilities and 1040 jobs for service providers
- Services to 3,000 senior citizens so they can continue to live in their own homes
- Prescription subsidies for 8,395 low-income seniors and people with disabilities with chronic illnesses
- In-home services for 1,536 seniors on Medicaid
- Protection provided by state police
- Detention center services for youth convicted of crimes ranging from burglary to sex abuse.
- Seven prisons holding adult prisoners

What it will cost you:

Listed below are estimated increases for 2002 state tax returns, if voters approve Measure 28 on January 28th. Figures are based on Legislative Revenue Office estimates for single and joint return:

TOTAL INCOME	AVERAGE TAX CHANGE
\$10,000 to \$20,000	\$16.61 (5cents/day)
\$20,000 to \$30,000	\$48.77 (13cents/day)
\$30,000 to \$40,000	\$80.25(22cents/day)
\$40,000 to \$50,000	\$107.07 (29cents/day)
\$50,000 to \$60,000	\$147.71 (40cents/day)
\$60,000 to \$75,000	\$211.67 (58cents/day)
\$75,000 to \$100,000	\$385.08 (\$1.06/day)
\$100,000 to \$200,000	\$1,686.04 (\$4.62/day)

Cuts Already Taken This Biennium from the Department of Human Services

- \$2,276,925—for Developmental Disability Services
- \$1,216,932—for local mental health services
- \$2,600,000—for mental health and alcohol and drug services for Oregon's Children's Plan clients.
- \$1,000,000 in one-time savings from a slower-than-expected start-up of services in the Staley settlement agreement for developmentally disabled persons.
- \$515,097 in savings from restructuring staffing for state-operated group homes.

Cuts Planned if Ballot Measure 28 Fails

Department of Administrative Services:

- \$325,190—Elderly Rental Assistance

Education:

- \$606,270—Deaf and Blind
- \$3,093,423—Early Intervention
- \$1,187,959—Regional Programs
- \$95,000,000—State School Fund
- \$46,277—Commission for the Blind

Department of Human Services:

- \$10,696—Oregon Disabilities Commission
- \$2,029,901—State Commission on Children and Families
- \$12,137—Early Identification Supports and Services
- \$1,053,752—Public Health Programs

- \$11,631,935—Mental Health Services
- \$1,057,089—Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs
- \$504,026—Vocational Rehabilitation Programs
- \$22,330,728—Medical Assistance Programs
- \$22,169,547—Senior and Disabled Services
- **\$12,180,799—Developmental Disability Services**
- \$22,525—Long Term Care Ombudsman
- \$26,193—Psychiatric Security Review Board

A Letter from LBCC

Linn-Benton Community College has offered classes for many years to meet the needs of community members with a variety of disabilities. The Office of Disability Services particularly has offered Livings Skills, Successful Living Transition and Cooking classes to students who could benefit from skill development in these areas.

I am sorry to say that these classes are not being offered for the remainder of this school year. A variety of factors have contributed to the cancellation of these classes. One significant factor has been the enrollment decrease in these classes by our community members. The number of students has declined steadily over the past several years. Facing significant budget cuts, the college is not able to continue to support under filled classes.

Students who are in the

current classes may consider taking classes offered through other departments of the college. LBCC continues to offer a variety of extended learning opportunities. Additionally the Office of Disability Services continues to offer Art for Life. This class offers students an opportunity to explore their creativity at their own pace.

Again, I'm sorry that we will not be able to offer the Life Skills, Successful Living and Cooking classes. When we feel that there are sufficient students to fill these classes we will, of course, consider scheduling them again.

Sincerely,

Adero CE Allison, PhD
Disability Services
Coordinator
Linn-Benton Community
College

Come Help Celebrate the 20th Annual Family Resource Fair

The 20th Annual Family Resource Fair is scheduled for March 8th from 9am to 2:30pm. Scott Perry, singer and children's songwriter will set the tone for the day at the 9am keynote. He will also lead the end of the day celebration. Children 6 months to 20 years enjoy a fun day of quality child care. Parents must pre-register by March 5th if they want childcare or lunches. Walk-in registration is available for workshops beginning at 8am on March 8th.

Adult admission is \$1. A sack lunch is provided for \$2 or participants can bring their own. Child care for the day is \$2 per child. Parents are encouraged to register early because the space for childcare is limited. Watch for registration flyers being distributed through schools and community groups in February. For more information, call 917-4897.

Details, details, details...

Don't take our word for it. Read the details yourself:

- **Text of Measure 28** and the financial impact statement, Oregon Secretary of State
- **Cuts to the state budget** effective February 1 (which would be restored by measure 28), Oregon Department of Human Services, including specific cuts in Benton County
- **Financial analysis** and understandable research on Measure 28 from the Oregon Center for Public Policy
- **Measure 28 impacts to Oregon's courts**, information from the Oregon State Bar

**This information and much more is at
www.yeson28.com
Check it out!**

EQUITOPIA



Equitopia, our Adaptive/Therapeutic Horseback Riding Program is having another fundraising auction. Proceeds from this auction will be used to purchase new equipment for the program and to sponsor future riders. Many wonderful items have already been donated by individuals and area businesses. If you have any item, gift certificate, or service that you would like to donate, please contact Amy at 753-1711 before January 31, 2003. This is the dead-

line for getting your donation into the auction catalog.

State Sets Policy to Fully Implement Staley Agreement

Oregon Advocacy Center
December, 2002

Continued funding for the Staley Settlement Agreement has been at risk due to state budget cuts. However, following discussions with attorneys for the plaintiffs (including The Arc of Oregon), the state has agreed that, despite the budget crisis, its policy is to continue to fully fund and implement Staley.

The Staley agreement requires the state to phase in universal access to support services for adults with disabilities and to create more non-crisis residential placements. The current Governor and the Governor-Elect, as well as the legislative leadership from both parties have agreed that they will make every effort to fund the Agreement. The details of how this will occur will most likely not be worked out until the legislature meets in mid-

January.

The state has agreed, in the meantime, that no notices of termination of services will go out to individual clients or support service broker-ages, and to give the plaintiffs ten-day notice before sending out mass notices of termination at any time. This would give the plaintiffs time to go back to court to try to stop the termination of services should this ever be necessary.

While it appears likely that the agreement will be fully funded, we stress that nothing is definite until it happens in this budgetary climate. Please continue to contact your legislators to tell them to fully fund the agreement.

We want to give special thanks to attorney Bob Weaver of Garvey, Schubert and Barer for his continuing work on safeguarding these services that mean so much to so many people.

Gene Defect Identified in Children with Down Syndrome

Researchers have identified a gene defect that causes the development of leukemia in children with Down Syndrome according to a study appearing at www.nature.com/genetics. GATA1 is a transcription factor, meaning it controls the expression of other genes. It normally functions to regulate genes that control the production of red blood cells and platelets, which enable the blood to carry oxygen and to clot.

However, the abnormal GATA1 gene, found in children with Down syndrome and leukemia, produces a protein with a piece missing. The incomplete protein appears to be far less effective in regulating target genes, resulting in an outcome that is similar to having no GATA1 protein at all.

Researchers believe that this could speed diagnosis and provide a new target for therapy.

Rep. Lane Shetterly Kicks Off Community Center Building Fund

Article from *Philomath Chamber Newsletter January 2003*.

Forum speaker, Lane Shetterly, surprised everyone in the Chamber Luncheon audience with a kick-off check to start the proposed Community Center's building fund rolling. It was very gracious of Lane and we appreciate his contribution. Rep. Shetterly gives his state of the State presentation annually at the Chamber's December Forum.

Here are a few excerpts from his remarks:

The State of Oregon presently has the House controlled by the Republicans, and the Senate is even. There is much scrambling by all members of the legislature and waiting for leadership committees to be formed on both sides. Lane will be the speaker pro-tem for the next session, which means he will be pretty much running the floor, outlining business during the next session. Lane said the session will be focusing on the economy, budget and spending. He did not know if they could get to revenue or any tax reform.

Faith House News

Faith House, a residence associated with Christian Community of Caring, Inc., is being required by the State to become an Adult Foster Care Home. We do intend, however, to maintain the Christian atmosphere and values that are included in our Mission Statement. We have two immediate needs:

- We would like to fill the recently vacated position of live-in Assistant Companion. The position provides a salary and tax-free room and board. It also includes miscellaneous supplies and laundry. The Asst. works two days on the weekends and one afternoon a week. Some adjustment of hours can be arranged.
- Also, if there is a woman who has

Had experience in foster care or similar training who would like to work a few hours a month as a paid substitute or as a volunteer, CCC would love to get acquainted with her.

Faith House has an opening for a mildly developmentally disabled woman who would like to live in a home with a Christian family atmosphere with three other DD women and two companions. Each woman has her own large bedroom with generous closet space.

Judy Winkler (753-8628) or Betty Olleman (752-3667) would like to hear from anyone who may be interested.

Thank you, Betty Olleman



**Vote Yes
on**

Measure 28