



Taking action for basic human needs.



2013-2015 Budget: The Untold Story \$125 Million of Cuts Anticipated to Critical Health & Human Services

The Human Services Coalition of Oregon (HSCO) asks our legislators to consider the human cost of enacting cuts to critical services for children, families, seniors and others who are the most vulnerable in our state. The budget proposals currently being discussed will have a disproportionate and profoundly negative impact on thousands of Oregonians with low incomes.

We know that as a state we can make choices that reflect our priorities and none more so than the choices we make about the budget. We want all kids to succeed in school, everyone to have a safe place to call home and people to be able to access the care and services they need. Now is the time to put all our options on the table — we must look at tax expenditures, consider recommendations to make government more efficient, look at using a portion of the rainy day fund or examine other ideas to balance the budget. ***Make sure you tell our Legislators:***

Before you do this...	Consider these options...	
<p>The Budget presented by the Co-Chairs assumes that the Legislature will find savings in the Public Employee Retirement System and Tax Expenditures. This budget also is built on \$125 million of cuts to health and human services. These cuts would be in addition to cuts that have already been made in recent years to services for Oregon's most vulnerable.</p> <p>Critical Health & Human Services which meet basic needs are at risk.</p>	<p>Rather than ask for additional cuts to Health & Human Services and support for Oregonians, there are many other options to save or raise \$125 Million. We could:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use a portion of any increase from the May revenue forecast - Reduce some of our State's \$36 Billion in annual tax expenditures - Continue considering recommendations to make State Government more efficient - And use reserve funds 	
<p>Department of Human Services and Oregon Health Authority provide critical health & human services that meet basic needs across the state. Cuts to these services will impact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Seniors on fixed incomes; - Children in the foster care system; - Families with low incomes who need temporary assistance or child care; - People with drug and alcohol addictions seeking treatment; - People with physical or developmental disabilities; and - Programs which protect public health. <p>The budget presented by the Ways & Means Co-Chairs would severely and further damage basic support systems in our communities.</p> <p>We can create a budget that better reflects our priorities and creates a state where we take care of our neighbors with low incomes. Ask the Legislature to create a budget that reflects our priorities and puts people first.</p>	<p>Use new revenue first: Dedicate at least 25% of any net increase in revenue based on the May Revenue forecast to Human Services. (For example, if May forecast was up \$120 million, dedicate at least \$30 million to Human Services.)</p>	\$30+ million
	Cap most tax deductions and credits for wealthiest households.	\$150-\$250 million
	Continue implementation of 2011 Policies to Reduce Agency Mid-Level Managers	\$66 million
	Reduce State Services and Supplies by 5%	\$55 million
	Collect unpaid taxes, Reduce the "Tax Collection Gap" by 25%	\$101 million
	It's Raining Now: Use 25% of Rainy Day Fund reserves	\$62 million
	Use 25% of Education Stability Fund reserves as allowable under current law.	\$46 million
	Use a larger share of the Ending Balance (25%)	\$45 million
Total Potential Revenue: \$555 - \$655 million		