



# **Multnomah County State and Federal Legislative Agendas 2014**

**Office of  
Government Relations**

# The 2014 Oregon Legislature

- Session convenes on February 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Fast-paced Session
- Constitutional deadline for adjournment is March 9
- Each legislator can introduce 2 bills
- Each committee can introduce 3 bills



# The lay of the land: Salem, Oregon



- House Democrats have 34 of 60 votes
- Senate Democrats have 16 of 30 votes
- Three members are newly appointed
- It's an election year
- Leadership hopes to avoid controversy
- Many have announced they won't run again



# Issues likely to be controversial

Personal Income Tax Kicker



Columbia River Crossing

Marijuana Legalization



# 2014 Budget Priorities

- Restore full state funding for programs supporting vulnerable populations, particularly children and families
- Preserve the current Juvenile Crime Prevention Funding Formula
- Restore full state funding for Community Corrections



# 2014 Budget Priorities

- Restore funding for emergency housing and homeless assistance



- Protect and enhance the County's share of state liquor, lottery and tobacco revenues



# 2014 Policy Priorities

- Monitor legislation modifying the structure of Coordinated Care Organizations
- Support increased tobacco taxation to reduce public health impacts
- Support restrictions on e-cigarettes that end sales to minors and establish a tax



# 2014 Policy Priorities

- Restore evidence-based reductions in offender sanctions for technical violations.
- Monitor marijuana legalization measures to insure adequate funding for public safety and addiction services.
- Support increased services to veterans



# The lay of the land: Washington, D.C.



- Republican House, Democratic Senate
- Many Republicans face ultra-conservative primary challengers
- The 2013 budget deal set a pattern for possible 2014 & 2015 budget agreements
- Senator Wyden will Chair the powerful Finance Committee



# 2014 Legislative Priorities

- Eliminate “inmate exception,” by providing federal health benefits to people in county jails pending disposition of charges
- Support funding for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) in farm bill reauthorization.



# 2014 Legislative Priorities

- Include stand-alone funding for bridge maintenance and operations in Surface Transportation Reauthorization.
- Oppose changes to municipal bond interest tax exemption to protect taxpayers from increased costs on public projects.



# Federal Funding Partnerships

- Healthy Start Initiative
- Nurse Program
- Ryan White
- Behavioral Health
- Domestic Violence
- Pre-Disaster Mitigation
- Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)
- Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

