

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

In the Matter of Opposing )  
State Mental Health Division )  
Cuts Proposed in the Department )  
of Human Resources 87/89 Budget )  
Rebalancing Plan )

RESOLUTION  
88-196

WHEREAS the Department of Human Resources is facing a \$2.2 million shortfall; and

WHEREAS the DHR budget rebalancing plan proposes \$1.93 million cuts in the State Mental Health Division; and

WHEREAS the proposed cuts are targeted at specific populations and service areas; and

WHEREAS potentially Multnomah County could lose 111 Community Support Service Slots totalling \$199,911 on an annualized basis; and

WHEREAS Multnomah County is currently able to serve only 50% of the estimated 7000 chronically mentally ill people who reside in the county; and

WHEREAS the loss of 111 slots would force provider agencies to dramatically reduce the level of services given to chronically mentally ill clients; and

WHEREAS the potential loss of these services would likely cause increased hospitalization of the chronically mentally ill through emergency holds because this population has no access to voluntary hospitalization; and

WHEREAS the State currently funds only one-third of emergency holds so an increase in the use of emergency holds would cause further reductions in existing services; and

WHEREAS the DHR 87/89 Budget Rebalancing Plan also proposes a \$100,000 Statewide reduction in family support services; and

WHEREAS family support services provide direct cash assistance to purchase respite care, special adaptive equipment for physically impaired children and counseling; and

WHEREAS between 10 and 25 families in Multnomah County would lose services because of this cut; and

WHEREAS the proposed cuts will also affect the county's community residential wait list beds and our crisis bed start up for developmentally disabled clients in Multnomah County; and

WHEREAS the proposed cuts will also jeopardize current negotiations with the State to bring five additional youth alcohol/drug treatment slots and a targeted prevention program to bear on the County's gang problem;

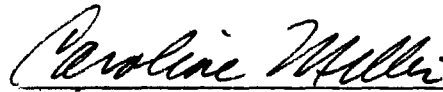
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners urges Governor Neil Goldschmidt to not reduce the State Mental Health Division budget and to seek other means of adjusting the DHR budget; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Board send copies of this resolution to Governor Neil Goldschmidt, Honorable Vera Katz and Honorable John Kitzhaber, M.D.

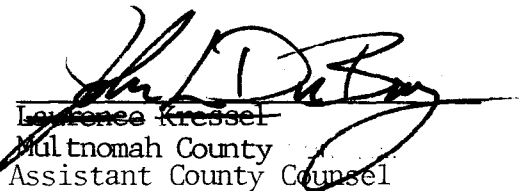
APPROVED this 10th day of November, 1988.

MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

( S E A L )

  
Caroline Miller  
Multnomah County Vice Chair Pro Tem

APPROVED AS TO FORM

  
Lawrence Kressel  
Multnomah County  
Assistant County Counsel