

MULTNOMAH COUNTY 1991 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA
Proposed for Adoption November 20, 1990

POLICY INITIATIVES

The 1991 Oregon Legislative Assembly is asked to:

Public Safety

- * Approve Misdemeanant Sentencing Guidelines which are balanced and do not result in mandates to exceed jail capacity.
- * Allow counties participating in or developing E-911 systems to levy an additional local telephone tax, to be used exclusively in support of E-911 services.
- * Continue to allocate state parole and probation supervision dollars based on the numbers of felons supervised.
- * Support the 1990 Governor's Task Force on Corrections recommendations, especially those regarding women offenders and adult sex offenders.
- * Shift all parole and probation supervision in the County to County management.
- * Enact firearms legislation which:
 1. Closes the enforcement loopholes of HB 3470(1989);
 2. Broadens local authority to regulate firearms, private security guards and concealed weapons permits;
 3. Regulates transport of assault-type weapons; and
 4. Provides for effective gun safety training.
- * Preserve proceeds from civil forfeiture for local governments and public safety operations.

Human Services

- * Maintain current levels of human services funding.
- * Reduce local government financial liability resulting from the provision of emergency medical assistance to individuals in the custody of law enforcement agencies.
- * Establish an equitable system of funding allocation for the community mental health system and maintain current levels of service.
- * Enact a Juvenile Community Corrections Act that clearly assigns case management responsibility for juveniles to local juvenile departments, and adequately funds services for juveniles under court supervision.

- * Increase beer and wine taxes and dedicate that revenue to treatment/prevention services for alcohol and drug-dependent persons.
- * Support recommendations of the Governor's Task Force on Pregnancy and Drug Abuse.
- * Enact state Medicaid legislation which:
 - 1) Allows use of local dollars for Medicaid matching funds;
 - 2) Increases the availability of Medicaid funds for low income pregnant women and children and for mental health and alcohol and drug services for Medicaid eligible clients; and
 - 3) Permits counties to obtain Medicaid reimbursement for administrative services performed by county agencies.
- * Increase the cigarette tax and dedicate that revenue to local government health programs.
- * Provide the State's private non-profit community providers with inflation-based increases in their contracts.

Libraries

- * Provide for free and equal access to the resources of all Oregon Libraries.

Environment & Transportation

- * Prohibit unauthorized dumping of waste, with increased civil penalties and local enforcement.
- * Provide planning grants from LCDC for county compliance with the Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area management plan.
- * Continue support for the state land use planning program and for the ability for urban regions to manage growth.
- * Enact air quality standards and programs which are consistent and uniform to the entire two-state Portland Metropolitan Airshed.

- * Enact solid waste legislation which:
 1. Directly reduces waste, including incentives for reuseable or recyclable packaging;
 2. Encourages the development of new, clean industries which will recover recyclable resources from the waste stream;
 3. Provides incentives to residential, industrial, and commercial interests to increase recycling efforts; and
 4. Expands the bottle bill to include plastic milk jugs, wine coolers, and all wine and liquor bottles.
- * Provide state matching share of light rail projects' cost.

Finance & Taxation

- * Maintain and enhance counties' ability to locally generate revenues.
- * Preserve and protect all current State revenues and supplements to local governments.
- * Authorize counties to levy and collect franchise fees from utility companies in the same manner as cities may.
- * Clarify, in the simplest of terms, the requirements and limitations imposed on the State, schools, and local governments by Ballot Measure 5 (November 1990), minimizing additional workload for real and personal property tax administration.
- * Continue funding for Assessment and Taxation, per HB 2338 (1989), to insure that State standards for appraisal and taxation are met.

Administration

- * Review all County programs mandated by the State for:
 - 1) Possible reductions in service levels;
 - 2) Assumption by the State of those programs; and
 - 3) Additional State and County means of funding those programs.
- * Require the State and cities to pay their apportioned share of election costs for the primary and general elections.
- * Allow an automatic update of voter's residence address when Election's Division receives a new address from postal records.

- * Make State Judicial Department financially responsible for provision of court facilities.

Economic Development

- * Adopt additional protections for families with children under the Oregon Fair Housing Law.
- * Create the Oregon Housing Fund to increase the availability of low income housing and emergency housing assistance.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

The 1991 Legislature is also requested to:

Public Safety

- * Require cities to process requests for disaster declarations through the county's emergency management program.
- * Encourage a state-wide agreement for public resources of one jurisdiction to assist another jurisdiction in an emergency or disaster.
- * Amend the Community Corrections Act to clarify that references to "county" mean a county's governing body.
- * Limit the use of formal probation for non-county residents convicted of misdemeanors unless the State provides equal funding.
- * Support the use of local advisory committees when special appropriations for community corrections initiatives are administered at the local level.

Human Services

- * Enhance the authority of health departments to enforce tuberculosis treatment and control requirements.
- * Mandate the development of a single, uniform child abuse reporting form with copies automatically going to CSD, the District Attorney, and the appropriate law enforcement agency.
- * Expand Child Protective Services in CSD to provide first response, with law enforcement agencies, to instances of child abuse.

- * Develop certification requirements for people providing sex offender treatment.
- * Develop certification requirements for people treating victims of child abuse.
- * Develop special training requirements for medical doctors doing child abuse assessments.
- * Maintain the current level of funding for the Youth Gang Demonstration Project.
- * Adequately reimburse area agencies on aging for administrative and care management costs relating to long term care.

Environment & Transportation

- * Insure that legislation changing how land use planning deals with mineral and aggregate extraction protects the public interest and retains local prerogatives in land use decisions.
- * Make the periodic review process for land use plans more practical and understandable for the public.
- * Continue and enhance Marine Board supplements for county programs (i.e., River Patrol, Facility Maintenance) and grant funds for the completion of Chinook Landing Marine Park.
- * Allow cities and counties to recover actual costs for damage to the road system from utility cut patching.
- * Encourage and support continued and enhanced interstate cooperation through the efforts of the Bi-State Policy Advisory Committee.
- * Enable Oregon counties to recover administrative costs by charging a permit fee from utility companies when they construct installations with the right of way of a public road.

Libraries

- * Allow counties to determine the size of their library advisory boards.

Finance & Taxation

- * Increase the County's ability to exchange records by using any appropriate electronic media. Current law restricts to tape exchange.
- * Require that Board of Equalization review all components of an appraisal when making a decision on an appeal.
- * Amend ORS 309.115 to apply real property only.
- * Amend ORS 307.166 to eliminate requirement for filing property tax exemption when property is owned by a governmental body and leased to another governmental body.
- * Amend ORS 309.110 to eliminate requirement to itemize reductions in values on personal property and industrial/commercial equipment and machinery on Board of Equalization orders.
- * Amend ORS 308.295 to clarify appeal date for late filing penalties, raise the penalty dollar amount per thousand and eliminate the penalty cap.
- * Amend ORS 309.100 to allow petitioner option of bypassing the Board of Equalization and appealing directly to the Department of Revenue if the industrial account has been appraised by the Department.
- * Amend ORS 307.162 to separate exemption filing for real property and personal property.

Economic Development

- * Permit communities along state designated scenic area highways to erect off-premise community entry markers.
- * Facilitate use of tax foreclosed inventory for public purpose including provision of home ownership opportunities for low to moderate income families in needy neighborhoods.
- * Continue funding of Safety Net Program serving households connecting to mandated mid-County sewer development.
- * Require State Builder's Board Certification for all contractors performing sewer connection work on existing residential property.

- * Allow transfer of tax-foreclosed properties to private nonprofit and community development corporations for purposes of low-income housing, in addition to other units of government.
- * Enhance use of tax credits for increasing the supply of affordable housing.

Administration

- * Exempt public employes' home addresses and phone numbers from disclosure under the Public Records Law.
- * Modify work requiring registration with the Construction Contractor's Registration Board to apply only to construction or public works contracts.
- * Repeal requirement to rotate candidate names on election ballots.
- * Allow County Governing Body delegation of subdivision plat approvals to County Surveyor.