

**SCR 207**

**In Memoriam: Gail Louise Achterman**

February 7, 2012

The Association of Oregon Counties strongly supports SCR 207. Oregon lost a brilliant and strategic leader when Gail Achterman passed away on January 28.

Gail connected with and understood deeply Oregon's natural resources, land use, and transportation issues. She knew how to forge close partnerships with counties and develop resolutions to highly complex challenges facing Oregon. She applied her immense knowledge in her roles as natural resource policy advisor, partner at Stoel Rives, Founder of Deschutes River Conservancy, Director of the Natural Resource Institute, and Chair of the Transportation Commission.

In the late 90s, she advised and represented the Council of Forest Trust Lands Counties at a pivotal time in its history: during the development and adoption by the Board of Forestry of the Greatest Permanent Value Rule, which guides State Forest management. She involved counties in the drafting of the state's Transportation Plan and frequently engaged with county officials to gain their insight.

We have greatly appreciated her accomplishments and insights, and we deeply mourn Oregon's loss.