

February 12, 2013

Senator Laurie Monnes Anderson, Chair
Senate Health Care, Human Services and Rural Health Policy Committee
900 Court St. NE, Room 453
Salem, Oregon 97301

Chair Monnes Anderson and Members of the Committee,

The American Diabetes Association (ADA) supports SB 169 and bills requiring state agencies involved with diabetes to review and prioritize their efforts and develop action plans to reduce the burden of diabetes.

Why should the legislature care about obesity and the growing diabetes epidemic? We commend the legislature taking the lead in the fight against diabetes and obesity in Oregon State. **Diabetes now affects more than 800,000 Oregon residents.**

- In Oregon, 8.2% of the adult population has diabetes - about 241,000 people.
- **Over 1/4th of Oregon's kids are obese or at high risk for being obese, and for the first time ever children are being diagnosed with type 2 diabetes.**
- Over 65,000 people have undiagnosed diabetes.
- Over 500,000 people have pre-diabetes.
- Over \$1.4 billion dollars is spent a year on diabetes direct and indirect cost in OR.

If we do not do something about the growing epidemic the economic cost to Oregon will be crippling. Because of this, the American Diabetes Association strives to improve public policy as it relates to diabetes. This impending epidemic signals a need to implement coordinated efforts utilizing existing services as well as those that need to be developed to effectively meet this public health challenge.

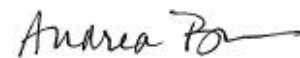
The American Diabetes Association believes this legislation to create a Diabetes Action Plan for Oregon will provide a more balanced and comprehensive approach to address the costs of diabetes and influence positive public policy to reduce the social and economic burden of diabetes in Oregon.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at email: lkeller@diabetes.org or: 206-295-5532, or the ADA lobbyist, Elise Brown, at ebrown5722@comcast.net.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Laura Keller'.

Laura Keller
Director State Government Relations

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Andrea Bruno'.

Andrea Bruno
Executive Director, Oregon