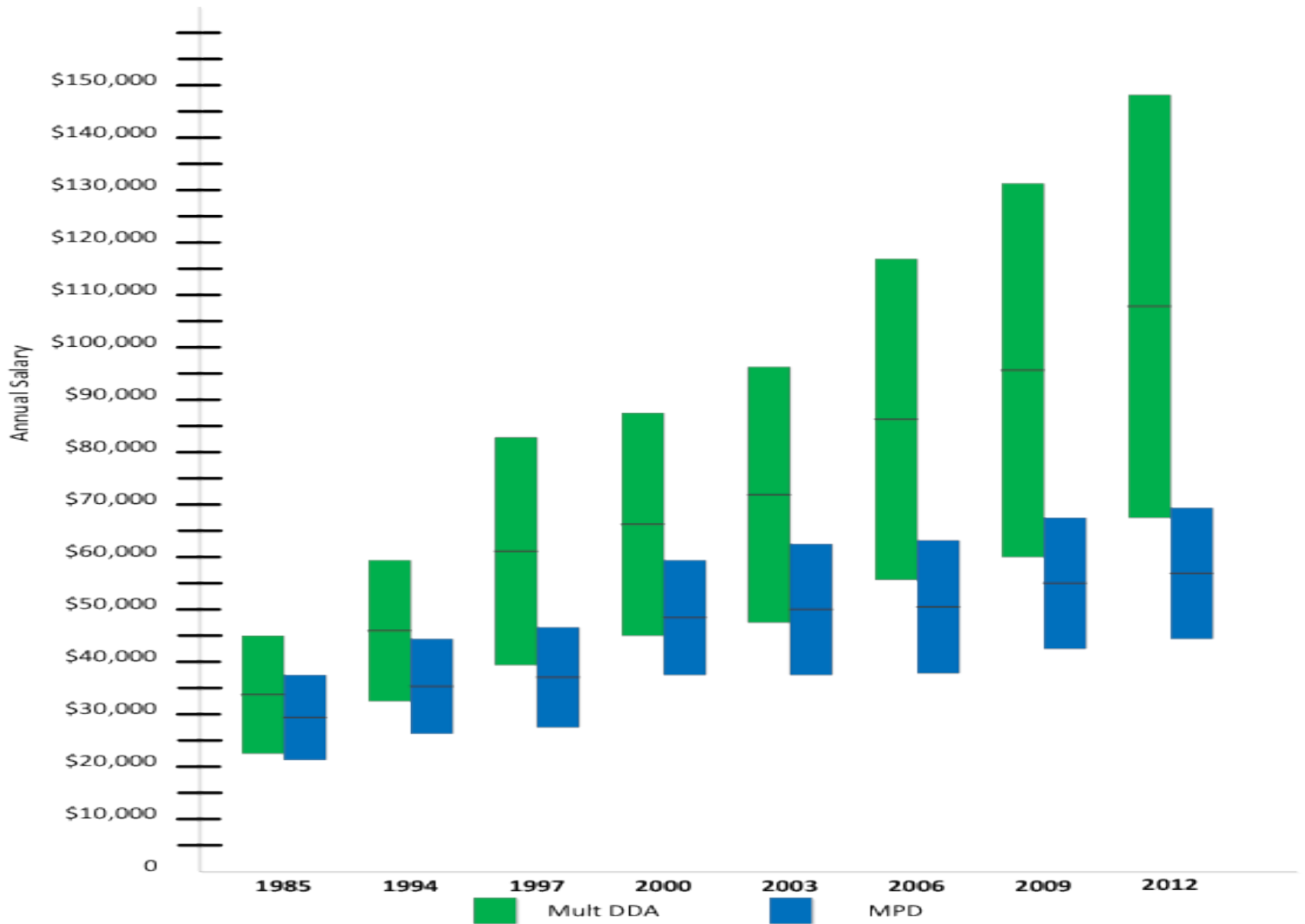


House Bill 3463

2013 Oregon State Legislature



HISTORICAL WAGE SCALE COMPARISON
BETWEEN
THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY & THE METROPOLITAN PUBLIC DEFENDER



Traci Anderson, President
Kirsten Snowden, Vice President

MCPAA

Brian Davidson, Secretary
Ryan Lufkin, Treasurer

Phone: 503.988.6076

Multnomah County Prosecuting Attorney's Association

FAX: 503.988.3906

To Whom It May Concern:

Public defense lawyers are critically important components of the justice system. They take on the task of ensuring that law enforcement is held to the highest standard and that only the guilty are punished by the State. Without them, we could not do our jobs. It is therefore vitally important to attract and retain highly skilled lawyers in these positions. We want the very best opponents in court to ensure that our convictions are meritorious and provide the community the assurance that even the worst among us are defended with vigor and integrity. Skilled public defense lawyers also ensure fewer errors in the proceedings and thus reduce the need to burden an already overburdened appeals court.

Currently, public defense lawyers are terribly underpaid for their work. Their jobs are filled with extraordinary stress from their clients, who are often incarcerated, and from the families and loved ones of their clients. The pay disparity between public defense lawyers and virtually any other class of litigation lawyer is appalling, even when compared to their colleagues in the District Attorney's offices.

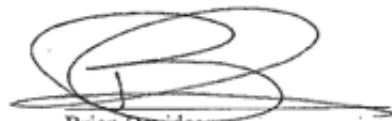
We write to urge the legislature to examine the pay structure of public defense lawyers and craft a means to bring their pay more in line with their work and responsibilities. Every member of the public would want the very best representing them if they were charged with a crime and we should encourage the recruitment and retention of these lawyers in careers as public defenders.



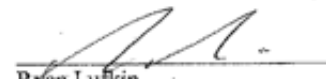
Traci Anderson
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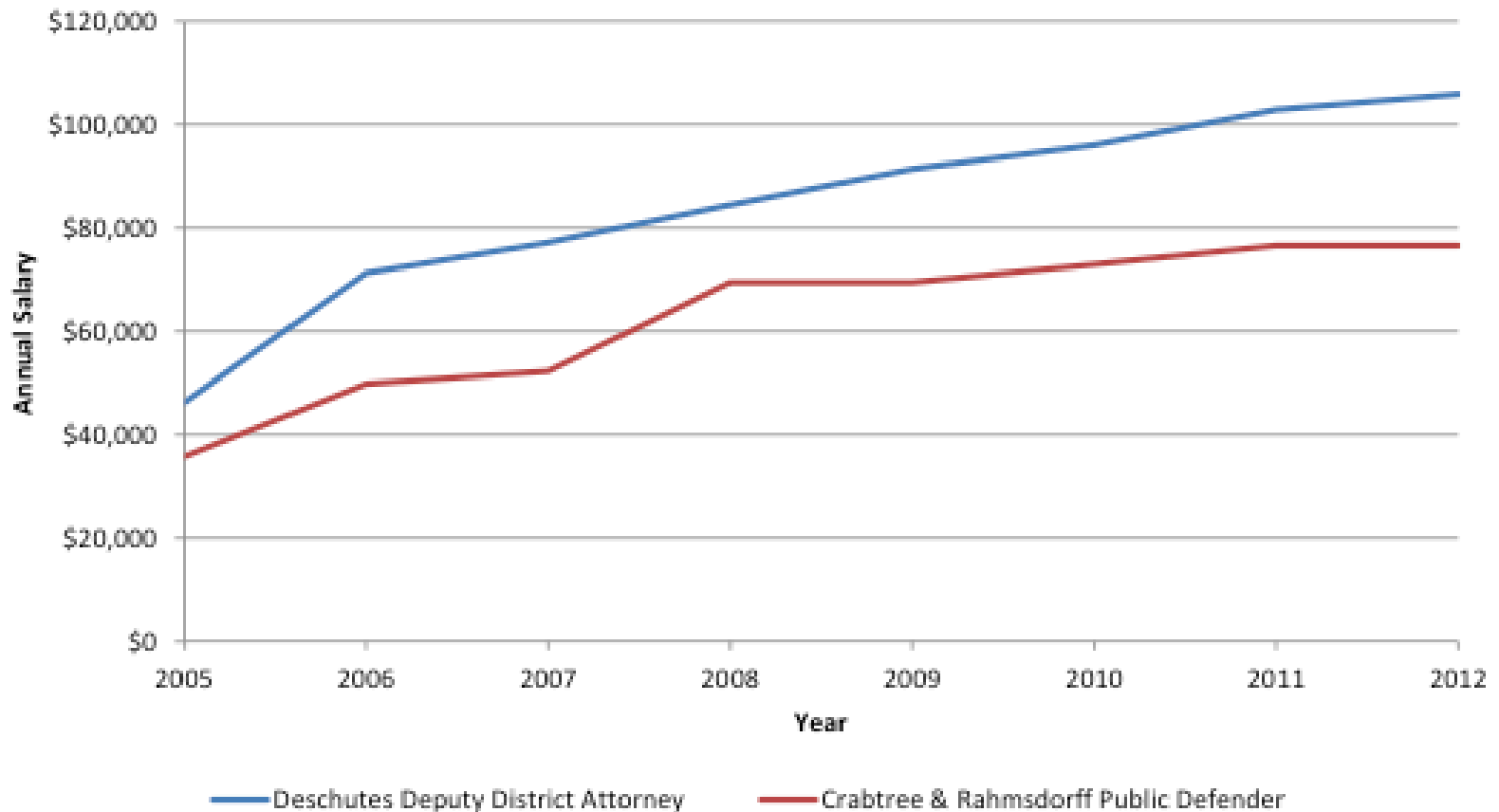


Brian Davidson
Secretary, MCPAA



Ryan Lufkin
Treasurer, MCPAA

Deschutes County - Compensation Comparison



	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Total
Deschutes Deputy District Attorney	46255	71292	77132	84506	91429	96039	102899	105883	\$675,435.00
Crabtree & Rahmsdorff Public Defender	35708	49778	52270	69458	69458	72930	76577	76577	\$502,756.00

Between 2005-2012, "George" made \$172,679 more in salary as a DDA then if he had stayed at the PD's office

DA – PD Pay Parity

State Statute Examples

Ohio: Section 120-1-06: “The salaries for public defender attorneys shall approximate and be in parity with the compensation received by a prosecutor with the same number of years in practice and experience.”

Connecticut: “The state’s public defenders, who are not union members and have no say in pay negotiations, get the same raises as prosecutors because of state law that requires equal pay for the two agencies.”