

From: Julie Cohen
To: [JWMHS Exhibits](#)
Subject: Disability Services and Budget Shortfall
Date: Sunday, March 26, 2017 7:38:01 PM

Dear Sir and/or Madam,

I wanted to say thank you for your service to the people of Oregon. Your dedication and hard work is very much appreciated.

I am writing because I am very concerned about the predicted budget shortfall facing our state for the upcoming biennium and as a result of that, the possible elimination of funding for programs and services like the FACT Oregon Family Network. This program and others like it are very important to those who experience disabilities.

Unfortunately I won't be able to attend the upcoming hearing for public testimony on the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Aging and People with Disabilities, and Vocational Rehabilitation portions of the DHS budget. These are programs that affect my family and many others on a very personal level. I cannot emphasize enough how important it is to fully fund the programs and services that will help Oregon families like mine, every day, as we pursue whole lives for our loved ones experiencing disability.

Caring for someone who can't care for him/herself is stressful and much too often, overwhelming. We can't do it all on our own. I ask that you please continue to advocate for full funding for these essential services. Thank you for your time and continued support through these difficult times.

Very sincerely,

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