

April 26, 2023

Marilyn Sue Hartzell
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Portland OR 97224-1184

Co-Chair Lew Frederick Oregon State Senate 900 Court ST. NE, S-419 Salem, Oregon 97301	Co-Chair Susan McLain Oregon House of Representatives 900 Court St. NE. H-477 Salem, Oregon 97301
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Dear Mr. Frederick and Ms. McLain:

I am writing to request the Oregon Joint Committee on Ways and Means support the Governor's recommended continuing service level of funding for the important statewide programs Oregon Solutions and Oregon Consensus. I have been serving as a member of the Northwest Regional Newborn Screening Program (NWRNBS) Advisory Board since July 2019. Within that context, I have experienced, first hand, the critical work of Oregon Consensus.

Since the beginning of my tenure with the NWRNBS Advisory Board, I have repeatedly been grateful for the skill with which Oregon Consensus can facilitate a body of diverse professionals and community members, representative of the issues at hand, to come to consensus on challenging and important program policies and practices that impact the lives of Oregonians. Without that impartial skill in facilitating decision-making, it would be far more challenging and time consuming.

The Oregon Consensus and Oregon Solutions programs provide very distinct and critical services to communities across the State in reaching agreement on contentious issues and supporting implementation of sustainable solutions. I am thankful the legislature recognizes the significance of these programs, and hope it will continue to be supported.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Sue Hartzell, NWRNBS Advisory Board Member, Washington County

CC: Senator Michael Dembrow
Senator Suzanne Weber
Representative Tracy Cramer
Representative Emily McIntyre
Representative Hoa Nguyen
Representative Ricki Ruiz