



## House and Senate Bill Updates

What has our legislature been doing the past six months?! They have been making important decisions that affect all of us! Clients, Board members, providers and staff from Full Access have had a lot to share with legislators. Several visits were made for hearings and individual meetings with Senators and Representatives. We know we can make a difference and having our voices heard is how that happens.

### **BILL TO PROTECT VULNERABLE ADULTS HIGHLIGHTS SUCCESSES**

House Bill 2442, passed before the session ended. This important bill was in response to a series of reports in The Oregonian finding unacceptable levels of abuse in community facilities serving individuals with developmental disabilities. Our State Developmental Disabilities Coalition, chaired by Full Access Executive Director, Margaret Theisen, was helpful in this process. This bill creates a Quality Care Fund to support training, technical assistance, quality improvement and licensing enforcement to ensure high standards of care. Increased licensing fees and civil penalties will be added to the Quality Care Fund.

HB 2442 will greatly increase the safety and care of vulnerable citizens. It expands the definition of abuse for elderly persons and persons with developmental disabilities. It provides an exception from civil liability for facilities who disclose substantiated findings of abuse by their employees or former employees to prospective employers. It stops the use of public funds to pay caregivers who have been convicted of serious crimes and sets standards for communications between the state, law enforcement and district attorneys concerning abuse reports. District attorneys are also directed to establish a multidisciplinary team to investigate and notify people of abuse procedures.

### **SENATE BILL 702 DID NOT PASS**

One important bill that Full Access opposed did not pass! It did get what is called a “budget note” which means they are going to keep working on it. We expect our self-advocates and State Coalition to take an active role in these discussions. Thank you all so much for your advocacy on this bill!

For a list of other bills already signed by the Governor that specifically affect people with disabilities, please go to [www.oregonddcoalition.org](http://www.oregonddcoalition.org). With all the problems with the State budget, people are thinking the legislature might go back into session later this year. They are already planning a special session for February of 2010. We will keep you updated on the things that affect us!



*Full Access organized people to attend an important legislative hearing at the Capitol in Salem.*

Our thanks from Full Access to Walmart in Bend for a generous \$1000 donation to our program services through the Sprout Film Festival fundraiser!



## Happy birthday to:

Alex S	Daniel M	John S	Mark K	Robert C
Andrea G	Dareth S	Jonathan M	Mark S	Roberta F
Anna S	Dawn R	Kellie H	Mary H	Rochelle T
Barbara K	James F	Ken G	Megan L	Sandra V
Ben M	Jamie L	Kendra T	Michelle S	Sara P
Blaine S	Jamie L	Kenneth R	Nathaniel K	Sarah B
Bo B	Jason B	Kimberly H	Nikos T	Sarah V
Bob D	Jason B	Lee B	Patrick C	Scott F
Brandon L	Jean D	Lindsey D	Paul M	Shannon D
Brenda G	Jeremy K	Lyndon S	Perry J	Svea O
Christine B	John C	Marilyn M	Richard J	Traci R
Clifford N				Zechariah B

**And to anyone we may have missed!!!**

## Calendar Note:

### Ice Cream Social:

July 16th

2 - 4pm

Senior Center  
Bend

### Picnic:

August 28th

4 - 6pm

Emerald Park  
Eugene

### **Eugene Office:**

1240 Charnelton St.

Eugene, OR 97401

Phone: 541-284-5070

Toll Free: 1-866-890-5743

Fax: 541-284-5067

Email:

[HHSlechta@fullaccess.org](mailto:HHSlechta@fullaccess.org)

### **Cottage Grove Office:**

1450 Birch Ave

Cottage Grove, OR 97424

Phone and Fax: 541-767-0696

Email: [LNopp@fullaccess.org](mailto:LNopp@fullaccess.org)

### **Bend Office:**

155 NE Revere Ave, Ste B

Bend, OR 97701

Phone: 541-749-2158

Toll Free: 1-888-272-5065

Fax: 541-617-8632

Email: [Ksellmann@fullaccess.org](mailto:Ksellmann@fullaccess.org)

### **Madras Office:**

212 SW 4th Street, Ste 303

Madras, OR 97741

Phone: 541-475-3392

Fax: 541-475-4878

Email: [LHemsley@fullaccess.org](mailto:LHemsley@fullaccess.org)

<http://fullaccess.org>

### **Full Access**

