

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

IN THE MATTER OF SUPPORT OF)
PROPOSED DISTRICT) RESOLUTION 35-01
ATTORNEY FUNDING)

WHEREAS, the voters, in approving Ballot Measure 47 in 1996, Ballot Measure 50 in 1997 and defeating Ballot Measure 94 in 2000 indicated that Public Safety was among the highest of their priorities;

WHEREAS, the State of Oregon's share of support for the cost of prosecuting crimes has decreased from 19 percent in 1974 to only 9 percent in 2000;

WHEREAS, the State of Oregon has historically increased the budgets for State Police and Courts;

WHEREAS, Oregon Counties have been funding the increased costs of District Attorney prosecution;

WHEREAS, the SB 6 Task Force, created by the 1999 Legislature, recommended a long term goal of 50-50 cost sharing between the State of Oregon and Oregon Counties for prosecution costs;

WHEREAS, the SB 6 Task Force recommended a \$20 million increase from the State of Oregon for cost-share funding for District Attorney prosecuting expenses, as an initial step;

WHEREAS, the State of Oregon funding for Indigent Defense has increased since 1999 over \$22 million;

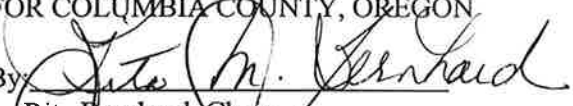
WHEREAS, Governor Kitzhaber is recommending an increase of \$24.7 million to the Indigent Defense budget for the next two years;

WHEREAS, the counties of Oregon believe that all parts of the Criminal Justice system need to be treated equally and financially supported as a system;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of Columbia County respectfully requests, on behalf of the citizens of Columbia County, that the Governor and Legislature provide the amount recommended by the SB 6 Task Force of \$20 million as the State of Oregon's initial share for the cost of prosecuting crimes, and be given the same budgetary consideration as the Indigent Defense budget.

DATED this 4th day of April, 2001.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By: 
Rita Bernhard, Chair

By: 
Anthony Hyde, Commissioner

By: not present
Joe Corsiglia, Commissioner