

system of intergovernmental service delivery and funding that is based on measurable performance, customer satisfaction, prevention, flexibility, and service integration; and

Whereas the Oregon Option has the potential to dramatically improve the quality of Federal, State and local services to Oregonians: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that the Oregon Option project has the potential to improve intergovernmental service delivery by shifting accountability from compliance to performance results and the Federal Government should continue in its partnership with the State and local governments of Oregon to fully implement the Oregon Option.

Mr. HATFIELD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a memorandum of understanding and a letter regarding the Oregon Option be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING REGARDING
"THE OREGON OPTION"

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Memorandum Of Understanding is to encourage and facilitate cooperation among Federal, State and local entities to redesign and test an outcomes oriented approach to intergovernmental service delivery. This special partnership and long-range commitment will serve as demonstration of principles and practices which may serve as a model for improvements nationwide.

II. BACKGROUND

In July 1994, Oregon proposed a multi-year demonstration with the Federal Government to redesign intergovernmental service delivery, structured and operated to achieve measurable results that will improve the lives of Oregonians.

Oregon is uniquely suited for an experimental demonstration to develop an outcomes oriented approach to intergovernmental services. The State and many local governments have begun using an outcomes model for establishing longrange vision, setting public priorities, allocating resources, designing services, and measuring results. The Oregon Legislature has endorsed the Oregon "Benchmarks." Further, many non-profit organizations, businesses, and civic groups in Oregon are aligned to a benchmark process with State, county and local jurisdictions.

III. PRINCIPLES TO GUIDE COOPERATION

The following principles should guide the parties cooperation in this undertaking:

A re-designed system would be:

Structured, managed, and evaluated on the basis of *results* (i.e., progress in achieving benchmarks).

Oriented to customer needs and satisfaction, especially through integration of services.

Biased toward prevention rather than remediation of problems.

Simplified and integrated as much as possible, delegating responsibilities for service, design, delivery, and results to front-line, local-level providers, whether they are local agencies or local offices of state agencies.

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES

The parties to this memorandum will work together as partners to (1) identify benchmarks, strategies, and measures that provide a framework for improved intergovernmental service delivery and (2) undertake efforts to identify and eliminate barriers to achieving program results.

V. AUTHORITIES

The principles and responsibilities covered in this memorandum are intended to improve the coordinated delivery of intergovernmental programs. This memorandum does not commit any of the parties to a particular level of resources; nor is it intended to create any right or benefit or diminish any existing right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law by a party against the United States, State of Oregon, any state or federal agency, any state or federal official, any party of this agreement, or any person. While significant changes to the intergovernmental service delivery system are anticipated as result of this effort, this is not a legally binding or enforceable agreement. Nothing in this memorandum alters the responsibilities or statutory authorities of the Federal agencies, or State or local governments.

OREGON PROGRESS BOARD,
Salem, OR, January 3, 1993.

Hon. MARK O. HATFIELD,
U.S. Senator,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR HATFIELD: Thank you for introducing a Senate Resolution in support of the Oregon Option.

For the past six years, the Oregon Progress Board has been developing and championing Oregon Benchmarks, measurable indicators of how our state is performing in education, health, environmental quality and economic development. The Benchmarks have been extensively reviewed through public meetings, and the measures are used widely to guide public, non-profit and private sectors activities.

Through the Oregon Option, we hope to apply the Oregon Benchmarks to federal programs. The typical federal approach to domestic programs carried out by state and local governments is to structure and manage service delivery from the top down. Officials in Washington define problems and solutions, prescribe service activities, impose complex but often conflicting and wasteful regulations and measure program success based on compliance rather than on true results.

Under the Oregon Option, federal, state and local partners work together to define results—in the form of benchmarks—that they want to achieve with federal dollars. State and local service providers then have the latitude to determine how best to achieve those results. The approach unburdens Oregon's state and local service providers from paperwork and frees their time and energy to deliver results.

We hope that the Oregon Option can become a model for a different way to deliver intergovernmental services, a model that empowers communities and front line workers to achieve the results citizens demand.

Endorsement by the Senate would give the Oregon Option an enormous boost. We greatly appreciate your support for this effort.

Sincerely,

DUNCAN WYSE,
Executive Director.

MARION COUNTY, OREGON,
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS,
December 30, 1994.

Hon. MARK O. HATFIELD,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR HATFIELD: I am writing to offer my sincere thanks to you for introducing your Senate Resolution recognizing the importance of The Oregon Option and calling for its full implementation.

The Oregon Option offers us an historic opportunity to create a more responsive, effi-

cient government which gives local communities greater responsibility for their own success. Ultimately, through this collaborative effort, I believe that we can restore credibility for our institutions and redefine governance for our citizens.

Much of the current debate over intergovernmental relations revolves around the level of government at which we place authority and responsibility for delivering services. Such a debate is empty if it does not take the time to ensure accountability for results, which The Oregon Option has as its central focus.

I hope that the Senate will enthusiastically adopt your resolution, and that the Federal Administration will work quickly to fully implement this important proposal which is already showing signs of success in Oregon.

Sincerely,

RANDALL FRANKE,
Marion County Commissioner; President,
National Association of Counties.

SENATE RESOLUTION 24—PROVIDING FOR THE BROADCASTING OF PRESS BRIEFINGS ON THE FLOOR

Mr. DOLE (for himself and Mr. DASCHLE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 24

Resolved, That notwithstanding the provisions of S. Res. 28 (99th Congress, 2nd Session), live television coverage of those periods before the Senate comes into session in which the press is allowed on the Floor to ask questions of the Majority and Minority Leaders be permitted.

SENATE RESOLUTION 25—RELATIVE TO SECTION 6 OF SENATE RESOLUTION 458 OF THE 98TH CONGRESS

Mr. LOTT submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 25

Resolved, That, for the purpose of section 6 of Senate Resolution 458 of the 98th Congress (agreed to October 4, 1984), the term "displaced staff member" includes an employee in the office of the Minority Whip who was an employee in that office on January 1, 1995, and whose service is terminated on or after January 1, 1995, solely and directly as a result of the change of the individual occupying the position of Minority Whip and who is so certified by the individual who was the Minority Whip on January 1, 1995.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE RULES OF THE SENATE

HARKIN (AND OTHERS)
AMENDMENT NO. 1

Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. PELL, and Mr. ROBB)