

*AOC Principles originally adopted November 15, 2007
Amended in 2008, 2009 and 2010*

Association of Oregon Counties



Legislative Committee



Overarching Principles for AOC

*County government is unique in its ability to meet the needs of its citizens
with convenient access and the ability to hold elected officials accountable for results.
County government is the government closest to all the citizens of Oregon.*

Oregon's counties are:

- **Committed to responsive, efficient and effective local government**
- **Committed to healthy and safe communities**
- **Committed to quality, livable and economically viable communities**
- **Committed to safe and efficient transportation for our citizens**
- **Committed to achieving community-based goals for our environment**
- **Committed to meeting the learning and health needs of our citizens**

Oregonians hold the state *and* their counties responsible for delivering critical public services.

Oregon's counties are the hub for coordination and delivery of many shared state-county services.

No two Oregon counties are exactly alike. This diversity requires a flexible approach to statewide policymaking. *One size will not fit all.*

As such, the Association of Oregon Counties stands firm on these principles:

- No unfunded mandates
- Flexibility in revenue raising ability
- Local control
- No responsibility without authority
- Commitment to state-county partnership
- Honor previous agreements made with the:
 - Oregon Legislature
 - Governor of Oregon, and
 - State of Oregon agencies
 - United States government
- Work effectively with other governments, including tribal governments
- Preservation of local community