

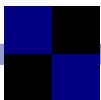
M E M B E R S H I P  
M A T T E R S  
S E R I E S

This brochure is brought to you by the  
2007-2008 ASCLS Leadership Academy.

We hope that you have found it to be both  
informative and inspiring.

We are members of ASCLS because the  
future of our profession depends on us.

Please join us in our cause to make a  
DIFFERENCE!!



American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science  
*Voice, Value, Vision*

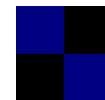
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## Legislation Matters!



A S C L S L E A D E R S H I P  
A C A D E M Y



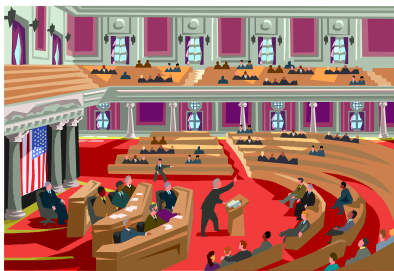
## Legislation

Do you know about competitive bidding? CMS has proposed a competitive bidding project for those services provided by Medicare. This may cause laboratories to compromise quality, eliminate services and eliminate personnel in an effort to reduce costs to secure the bid. Ultimately and more importantly, patient safety and quality of care is compromised.

ASCLS is fighting competitive bidding and asking Congress to repeal this project!

This is just one of the many issues on which ASCLS is making a stand.

Visit <http://www.ascls.org/currentevents/index.asp> for more information.



## Legislation Story

Opening the door after a quick trip to the water fountain to moisten my dry mouth, the senate hearing room was buzzing. The administrator had called my name to testify before the Senate Labor Committee. I moved quickly to retrieve my statement from my seat in the audience, and then settled myself in the center of the table facing the committee members who were sitting in a semi-circle at the front of the room. Seated on my left was Bob Woolsey, chair of AOMT's government affairs committee and on my right was Mike Skeels, director of the Oregon Health Division.

I took a deep breath and began, "Mr Chairman, members of the committee; for the record, my name is Catherine Otto, President of the Association for Oregon Medical Technology. I am speaking in favor of Senate Bill 478, to remedy a loophole in O.R.S. Chapter 438, requiring licensure of laboratories performing testing for substance abuse."

So began my vocation as an advocate for our profession in the legislative arena. Amazingly—mostly because we were all neophytes—SB 478 was passed by both chambers of the Oregon Legislature in 1987.

We felt like we had accomplished something big—we had made a difference both to our profession and to Oregonians. Riding on that wonderful feeling of success, we made three more legislative attempts—1989, 1991 and 1993—to mandate personnel standards—personnel licensure for clinical laboratories in Oregon.

All of those attempts were unsuccessful, however, it is likely that without AOMT's presence and our experience with the legislative process, we would not have been ready or as effective in successfully halting the closure of the only baccalaureate clinical laboratory science program in Oregon.

Participation in AOMT (now called OACLS) and ASCLS continues to give me the skills and courage to stand up for my profession and make a difference.

***Cathy Otto, ASCLS Member***

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