

House Resolution 4

Sponsored by Representative WILSON; Representatives BENTZ, ESQUIVEL, NEARMAN, POST, STARK, WHISNANT

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Recognizes State of Oregon's dependence on federal funds to provide needed services and operations and further recognizes risks of reductions in federal funds due to changes in federal budget priorities and federal tax revenues.

Commits House of Representatives to assessing risks of reductions in federal funds and to creating contingency plans and budget reserves to support funding for mission-critical services and operations. States expectation of House of Representatives that Governor and state agencies similarly develop contingency plans and incorporate contingencies in future budget recommendations.

HOUSE RESOLUTION

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2 Whereas the State of Oregon, like many other states, accepts billions of dollars in tax revenues
3 from the federal government in exchange for implementing and administering programs that comply
4 with standards imposed by the federal government; and

5 Whereas for the 2013-2015 biennium, the Legislative Fiscal Office has reported legislatively ap-
6 proved expenditures of federal funds that total \$18.349 billion; and

7 Whereas the legislatively approved federal funds expenditures for the 2013-2015 biennium rep-
8 resent a 15.8 percent increase from the 2011-2013 biennium legislatively approved budget for federal
9 funds; and

10 Whereas it has become a common practice in the State of Oregon to rely on federal funds to
11 artificially bolster the general revenues of this state to support programs; and

12 Whereas there is a significant risk that federal funding that is assumed in the state budget
13 process will decrease or be eliminated due to changes in federal budget priorities and federal tax
14 revenues; and

15 Whereas the State of Oregon lacks contingency plans to continue operations in the event of
16 foreseeable reductions in federal funds to be distributed to Oregon; and

17 Whereas in the absence of careful contingency planning and allocation of state funding re-
18 sources, the State of Oregon may become unable to maintain necessary levels of service and opera-
19 tion; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Oregon:

20 That we, the members of the House of Representatives of the Seventy-eighth Legislative As-
21 sembly, recognize the reliance the State of Oregon now places on federal funds; and be it further
22

23 Resolved, That we are committed to assessing the risks of a reduction in federal funds received
24 in the state budget being developed this session and in future budgets; and be it further

25 Resolved, That we are committed to creating or adjusting state budget resources to hold in re-
26 serve for use in funding mission-critical services and operations when federal funds are reduced; and
27 be it further

28 Resolved, That we are committed to ensuring that the budget processes and documents used by

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 the Legislative Assembly for the 2015-2017 budget and future budgets will reflect forethought about
2 the possibility of reductions in federal funds provided to the State of Oregon; and be it further

3 Resolved, That we expect the Governor and state agencies to develop their own contingency
4 plans in the event of reductions in federal funding levels and to incorporate those contingencies in
5 future budget recommendations submitted to the Legislative Assembly.

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