

To the Editor:

Senator DeBoer voted this week for a school support bill that will sustain current funding levels, but won't reduce class sizes or add extra hours needed to enhance current programs. It doesn't assure that fine arts programs, where students gain self-confidence and increase self-control, won't be reduced in Medford 549C.

This week, DeBoer told me he supports a 1.4% increase in taxes on corporate profits to gain another \$530 million for threatened and reduced programs. I support his effort, which will not only strengthen education, but prevent extinction of some needed social service programs. Having larger businesses pay more will ease the tax burden on individuals and small businesses, and assure that citizens of all ages will receive needed services.

This past year the Library Board, on which I serve, helped initiate the Eagle Point School District's manufacturing technology pilot, that will continue next year. Workforce development training should be available in schools along with strong, affordable and accessible education for all children and families.

Providing the best educational system from early childhood through public universities that Oregon can provide, must be our goal. I am counting on Senator DeBoer to continue his efforts to increase funding for education and social services.

Carol Doty  
Medford, OR