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To: [LRO](#)
Cc: Rep.TinaKotek@state.or.us; Sen.LewFrederick@state.or.us
Subject: HB2830
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Testimony in support of HB2830

Co-Chairs Hass and Barnhart, members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify. My name is Richard Greensted. I'm a resident of North Portland. I have two kids that attend our neighborhood public school, they're in 5th and 7th grade.

My oldest started Kindergarten in 2009, so I've seen the negative effects of our over reliance on the personal income tax to fund education. Economic expansion has helped increase funding over the last few years but not by nearly enough.

We have a long way to go to meet the Quality Education Commission's recommendations for education funding and we are grossly unprepared for an economic downturn.

Record corporate profits are largely being returned to shareholders, while employees (your constituents) are only seeing minimal increases to compensation.

We're seeing an ever increasing gap between executive compensation and employee compensation. Who is being left behind when we refuse to stand up to big business?

We know that when we underfund our social services, the most vulnerable in our state carry the burden. We have to make a choice:

Do we believe that every Oregonian deserves a chance at success? Are we a state feels it's our duty to offer a comprehensive education to our children that find themselves homeless? Are we a state that's committed to erasing the achievement gap?

If we expect progress, we must demand corporations pay their fair share and we must stop waiting for their approval.

CEOs have shown that they consider it their fiduciary responsibility to oppose increases to their tax liability no matter the social cost. By waiting for corporations to approve tax increases we are telling Oregonians that shareholders are more important than the citizens of our state.

HB2830 is a modest tax adjustment that starts the process of reducing our over reliance on the personal income tax. Please consider a yes vote on HB2830.