



SB 326 Tax Credit for Animal Adoption from an Animal Shelter

Testimony for Senate Environment and Natural Resources – 2.8.2017 – Jody Wisner

Oregon is known nationally for crafting innovative legislation based on innovative and clever Ideas—think about Tom McCall’s bottle bill! However, we are equally famous for what the Oregonian called “historical over-commitments” (1/29/2017)— think about the legislatively approved Quality Education Model that is underfunded by \$2 billion!

SB 326 is another example of a clever idea in need of state revenues to come to fruition. SB 326 asks you to create a new tax credit, despite the fact that the current budget has a \$1.8 B shortfall. If you choose to support this measure, you are also deciding that Oregon’s children can do with fewer teachers or days of school.

Tax Fairness Oregon would be delighted to support innovative proposals like SB 326, but we want to remind you that every tax credit, tax incentive, or grant you approve reduces the life blood of Oregon.

Keep the following facts and figures in mind when you make your decision on SB 326 in this challenging budget cycle:

- Every \$85,000 you invest in a tax credit would buy a teacher for an overcrowded classroom in your district.
- Divide the requested tax incentive’s cost by \$42; that buys an additional day of schooling for a child in your district.
- And \$24.7 M. buys an additional day of school for every student in Oregon.

Tax Fairness Oregon strongly believes that until Oregon has a fundamentally fair and adequate revenue stream that can support the basic needs of its citizens NO Legislator should be considering offering tax credits, tax incentives, grants, or tax breaks for new bright ideas.