From: <u>certifiednuts@molalla.net</u>

To: <u>LRO</u>
Subject: Kicker Check

Date: Wednesday, March 20, 2019 12:07:14 PM

Importance: High

Good Afternoon!

As much as I would like to be there in person, I farm full time and am unable to take time off to attend in person. With that said, I would like to state my view regarding to send or not to send out a kicker check to the people of Oregon. Please take into consideration the current economy. The following are all increasing at a rate beyond peoples means: interest rates, goods and services, food, rents, taxes and most of all health care. A kicker check to many families may be just a little relief for a short period of time, but any relief from the burdens of daily life are true blessings. How do I know this? I have also worked for the school districts as a bus driver and have seen children that don't eat unless they are at school. Some families are so troubled they can't afford rent and end up on lists for homeless shelters for months... wondering where they are going to sleep.

One day I started taking different varieties of sliced apples on the bus and asked the children which ones they liked best (the names written on each of the bags). Most of the children didn't know apples came in different varieties, and loved trying different types. Then they would ask me to bring apples to snack on for the ride home. They loved apples. Why don't they get them at home? Because parents can't afford them at \$1.99 to \$2.98 a pound. My point, most families need the kicker check just to help them along a little. It may not impact them enough to buy luxury foods like Pink Ladies or Honey Crisp, but it may help them through a rough time, pay overdue rent, buy some extra groceries or pay the insurance on the car so they can drive legally. If you don't think a majority of people in this state live sub standardly then maybe it is time you drive a school bus and listen to their children. It is an eye opener!

I ask you to send the kicker out to the people in this state, not for myself, but for those who really need what ever extra money they might have coming back. It is hard to imagine that and extra 25 or 50 dollars makes a difference to anyone. But it does. You don't see it every day, but I do. What will I do with my kicker check? It will go to the kids I drive in the way of teaching them about healthy foods via natural snacks and toward a community garden. See, what you do can make a difference, even in a small way to many people.

Please do the right thing for the people of this state! So many hesitate to ask for help even if they need it. And there are more in need than you know! I personally can't help every one of them, but you can. Thank you for listening and for your consideration in this matter.

Respectfully yours,

Phyllis Morris

Hazelnut Farmer & School bus driver

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