

Submitter: Chelsea Wilkinson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Human Services

Measure: HB4079

I fully support HR 4079 and think it should be voted yes on. This program would be a positive step that properly can address the chronic inequality the people who live in this state face and it is a solution that the state has not tried yet. Giving people unrestricted cash shows promising results because it is more direct and flexible for the individual being supported to meet their needs. The monthly cadence of this is also going to help people so much because it builds security for them to take greater risks and make more progress with social mobility.

I want my state to invest in basic income programs like this that demonstrate trust and provide real financial security to members of my community. I think that this is a good start to target the groups who need it the most, and transitioning foster youth live a uphill struggle at no fault of their own. I think supporting pregnant individuals is wonderful too because it helps invest in the next generation. As an Oregonian I do not see the issue at all with introducing this extreme luxury tax because someone who can afford these items can afford this tax and I fully support it, and that money will then go back into the economy because it invests back into the people. People who think that this is going to lead to a tax on all goods are misled and should read the full text of the bill before forming an opinion.

I have happy to see Oregon take basic income seriously and making a solid step by introducing this kind of legislation. It is a great start!