

Submitter: Laurie Kimmell

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure: SB774

ARGUMENT AGAINST SB 774, SJR -26, SB 502

In 1980 (BM 85) and 1999 Oregon voters (62%) passed the "kicker" and codified it in the Oregon constitution. It is a constitutional mandate!

In 1991 & 1993 the legislature suspended the kicker & withheld 246 million from the tax payers.

In 2007 the kicker was diverted to the "rainy day" fund, What is the status and where are the expenditures from this Rainy Day fund?

Presently, the state is 5.5 billion over budget. The CAT tax money was supposed to go to the schools fund for 5 years. Where is this money going? Why is this legislature eyeing this over budgeted surplus.?

This bill is a dichotomy. It purports that the legislature is here to help working families but, proposes to take a constitutionally mandated state surplus rebate check from working families. That was their money to begin with. That kicker check to me when I was barely making it financially provided a bridge. These bills promise working families better housing, mental health, child care but, no any reprieve from high personal income tax, less police protection, less CAT tax for business. Vote NO to repeal. This constitutional mandate to return money to working Oregonians.

LAURIE KIMMELL, MSgt, USAF (Ret.)