FAIRSHOT FOR ALL

May 3, 2023

Co-Chairs Steiner and Sanchez; Vice-Chairs Girod, Gomberg, Smith; and members of the Committee,

The Fair Shot for All coalition, collectively representing hundreds of thousands of impacted Oregonians, respectfully urges you to invest in the <u>People's Budget</u> funding priorities using all revenue sources possible rather than adding more money to reserves.

Our work as a coalition is centered on ideas and input from those both historically and currently bearing the burden of Oregon's broken systems and the COVID-19 pandemic. Our ideas work for the state as a whole because they work for those of us who are most impacted.

We are currently living in a reality where most Oregon families are struggling to make ends meet. Inflation and economic uncertainty are worsening our state's ongoing challenges with housing, healthcare, and child care, and making it harder and harder to keep up. This impacts all Oregonians, but especially people who are Black, Indigenous, and/or people of color; women; low-income; located in rural communities; LGBTQ+; immigrants; and/or live with disabilities.

Without action, the challenges facing our communities will get worse and more expensive to solve. Fair Shot for All's <u>People's Budget</u> and other urgent priorities address the pressing needs of our communities <u>AND</u> strengthen our state for the challenges ahead. Strategic investments now give our communities the opportunity to thrive and promote economic justice and prosperity.

Oregon has the means to improve the quality of life of Oregon families and prepare for the future. With historic levels saved – over \$2 billion – we have the means to rise to the challenges of the day. By investing now in access to food, housing, child care, healthcare, workforce development, public defense, language accesss, and immigrant and climate justice, we can create economic opportunity for all and better prepare Oregonians to weather any coming storm.

Thank you for investing in an Oregon where all of us can have a fair shot.

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