

Submitter: Michelle Chachka

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee
On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5516

I am appalled that once again Oregon is underfunding schools. Especially when we see the federal govt defunding schools, we should pad the budget so we can keep special education funded and kids fed and Title 1 schools staffed at a level that supports the trauma that comes with poverty, since we know SES is a large impact on school performance. (On that note, why add another test to take away from precious instruction time, and not fund the cost of the test.)

I'm a special education staff and send my kids to our neighborhood schools, which is Roseway Heights, Title 1. This year my 7th grader has to get to math quick, because the last 2 in the class don't get a desk if everyone is present with their over 35 kid math class. (closer to 40). How can they absorb any more cuts when they are already this tight? I do not know what we will do. The staff is amazing and just shook off the nickname of "Roseway Fights" but with the City threatening to cut the afterschool programming, which feeds and builds community and connects families with supplies, and the school district needing to cut jobs I fear we will head that way again as you can't expect staff to keep the positive momentum when you pull resources.

We should not be getting a tax kicker every year while we kick teachers out of jobs.

WE NEED TO TAKE TRUMP SERIOUSLY when he says he is cutting funding to Dept of Ed and Title 1 schools. There will be interruptions of funding and Oregon should prepare for that.