

Submitter: Jane Farrell
On Behalf Of: Invest in Oregonians
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5006

Co-Chairs Lieber and Sanchez, and members of the committee,

I am a retired special education early intervention specialist here in Oregon...and have dedicated my life's career to providing services to children and families where programming has made huge differences in optimum outcomes. IDEA has provided a beacon of light and funding for our most at risk populations. I urge you to do what you can to preserve these funding streams...or at least give states dollar for dollar or more... to continue with the high standards IDEA set.

I am asking you to focus on our immediate needs in your state budget. Protect Oregon Now by prioritizing investments in our families and communities.

Actions from the White House and GOP Congress are enriching billionaires but creating real harm in our state: job losses, higher prices, and economic instability for everyday people. Oregonians need you to protect us by holding steady.

As you build the state budget, we call on you to reject any new Oregon tax breaks for corporations or the ultra-wealthy. Please continue to hold the line against cuts to the most critical basic services Oregonians all rely on, even as unelected Billionaires like Elon Musk threaten them from DC. Should the worst happen in the future, Oregon has reserves, but we should cross that bridge when we come to it.

I also urge you to prepare for any coming economic downturn or federal funding reductions by doing what we know works to keep families stable: strategically investing in our communities and giving Oregonians more opportunities to thrive.

Please prioritize a state budget which protects Oregonians.

Thank you,
Jane Farrell