

Submitter: Brett Harper
On Behalf Of: Invest In Oregon Families
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5006

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

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.

I have found homelessness and a lack of shelter beds especially for males and those fleeing DV especially trans and male people to be hard to come by leading to an increased in unhoused male and trans people. We need more resources distributed more equally and should be considering the mental and physical health of those we are helping get housed so they have the best chance to remain housed and in good health or they will just end up homeless again. This means we must also do more to fund rehabs methadone clinics and be more willing to help those caught in the clutches of addiction. It will take a lot more focus on the most poor and destitute and less on what the rich and we'll connected want.

Thank you,