

Submitter: Brianna Deyling-Demers
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 have worked with children for 20 years and it's gut wrenching to have witnessed it massive regression due to budget cuts further lining the pockets of those already raking in millions, only to have our communities claim schools are failing our kids. Every year we are expected to do more with less. Now, our district (4J) is getting rid of positions left and right. Positions with data proving the efficacy and necessity. Meanwhile our tiny district has SEVEN assistant superintendents, all making 3-6 times what I make, when we have less than 17k students in our population. Enough of this greed and of stuffing the pockets of those at the top whom are completely out of touch with what is happening at ground zero. Our investments in our school must be strategic. We MUST support our students AND staff. Get rid of the waste and excess at the top. Our foundation and their futures deserve better.

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,
Brianna Deyling-Demers