

Submitter: Stacie Camou
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4125

Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Stacie Camou, and I respectfully submit this testimony in opposition to House Bill 4125.

The Oregon Kicker has long represented a promise to taxpayers, when the state collects more revenue than projected and the budget is fully funded, the excess is returned to the people who earned it. This policy reflects fiscal discipline, transparency, and respect for Oregon families who carefully manage their own household budgets.

House Bill 4125 seeks to alter that longstanding agreement by changing the formula used to calculate the Kicker and redirecting surplus funds away from taxpayers.

While I recognize the seriousness of Oregon's Public Employee Pension System obligations, shifting the burden onto taxpayers after revenues have already exceeded expectations undermines public trust.

Oregonians are facing persistent financial pressures, housing costs, groceries, childcare, healthcare, and energy prices continue to rise. For many families, the Kicker refund is not a luxury; it is relief. It helps pay down debt, build savings, and cover essential expenses.

If the state is experiencing structural budget challenges, the solution should begin with disciplined spending, prioritization, and evaluation of existing programs before modifying a voter-supported mechanism designed to protect taxpayers.

The Kicker is more than a refund, it is a commitment to accountability. Changing it after surplus revenue has been collected risks signaling to taxpayers that budget projections and safeguards can be adjusted whenever the state desires additional funding.

I urge you to protect the integrity of the Kicker and vote NO on House Bill 4125.

Thank you for your time and your service to the people of Oregon.

Respectfully,

Stacie Camou

Beaverton, OR