

Greetings, Chair Nathanson and Co-Vice Chairs Reschke and Walters,

I am a constituent from senate district 23, house district 45, and my children are students at both Rose City Park and Harvey Scott Elementary Schools. We care deeply about Oregon and all of its students. We absolutely support HB 4125 to modernize the kicker.

Now is the right time to effect change and reform Oregon taxes to benefit all of our children. I am continuously disheartened by the continuous lack of funding for schools, starting with Measure 5 and then with Measure 50.

We are repeatedly failing generations of Oregon children while also damaging our business climate by failing to attract talented employees with families to our city due to the failures of our schools. My children are split between two different elementary schools this year because the incoming kindergartner cohort at my beloved neighborhood school was so small that it could not accommodate separate classrooms for my rising kindergartners. This is difficult for our family and weakens the bond with our neighbors when we have to send our children to a school outside our boundary.

The structure of the Kicker right now is destabilizing to the General Fund. Without a stable, growing General Fund, public education will never get a big enough piece of the pie. The Revenue Forecast Modernization Act or HB 4125 makes budget predictions less high stakes for our children and communities.

I'm calling on you, our lawmakers, to speak out boldly in favor of this bill and pass it into law. As the federal "Big Beautiful Bill" legislation starts to take effect, Oregon's General Fund will require a solid foundation, and the current Kicker is a perpetual crack in that foundation. Let's finally have a revenue prediction system that ensures investment in all of Oregon's children.

Warm regards,

Kimberly Zacha-Stephens