

Submitter:

Damien Gill

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4125

Hi, my name is Damien Gill and I am a constituent and my child is a student at Marysville Elementary School in SE Portland. I care about Oregon and its students. I support HB 4125 to modernize the kicker. Now is the time to effect change and reform Oregon taxes to benefit our children and the future.

Our school, as well as all schools in Portland Public Schools and across the state, is severely understaffed compared to the needs of its students. There is neither enough materials, including expensive educational tablets for special needs students(Autism/ADHD), nor is there enough staff to successfully support our students. With IEDs and other high needs, my son's class needs more specialized education staff in the classroom on a full time basis. Currently, there is not enough money to go around in general, and particularly for education funding across the state. A stable, growing General Fund is a part of the answer.

House Bill 4125 makes budget predictions more reliable, so that if economists are "off" on their predictions, we won't have massive cash paybacks to the wealthiest Oregonians, while our public programs, and thus our communities and children and families suffer.

I am asking lawmakers to speak out loudly 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 needs a strong foundation, and the Kicker is a perpetual crack in that foundation. Let's create a revenue prediction system that ensures investment in our children and our state.

Thank you,
Damien Gill