

Submitter:

Jessica Fitts

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4125

I oppose this measure because, while it is framed as prescribing methodology for revenue estimates, it has direct consequences for the surplus revenue refund—commonly known as the kicker—without voter approval.

The kicker is a voter-approved, constitutional requirement to return excess revenue to the taxpayers who paid it. Any changes that affect how surplus revenue is calculated, administered, or ultimately returned to taxpayers should be transparent and subject to voter consent. Adjusting the methodology used in revenue estimates is not a neutral or purely technical action when it can materially alter the timing, amount, or delivery of the kicker refund.

Using changes to the budgeting or estimation process to indirectly modify the surplus revenue refund undermines voter intent and public trust. If the state believes revisions to the kicker process are necessary, those changes should be presented clearly and voted on by the people—not implemented through administrative or technical adjustments.

The kicker belongs to taxpayers, and decisions affecting it should remain with the voters.