

Submitter: Ciatta Thompson
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4125

Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Ciatta Thompson. I am a longtime NW Portland resident and the Republican candidate for Oregon House District 33 in 2026. I am writing in strong opposition to House Bill 4125, which changes the methodology for state revenue estimates and surplus calculations tied to the kicker refund.

Oregonians are already struggling with high costs, unaffordable housing, and rising taxes after decades of one-party rule. The kicker refund — when state revenues exceed forecasts — is one of the few built-in mechanisms that returns excess taxpayer money directly to the people who earned it. It acts as a check on government overspending and gives hard-working families a small but meaningful break.

HB 4125 introduces new forecasting rules and requires transfers of "differences" in surplus calculations to special funds or other purposes. This risks reducing the kicker payout or diverting funds that rightfully belong to taxpayers. Many Oregonians view this as an attempt to quietly limit refunds during a time when families need every dollar back in their pockets — not redirected into new government pots.

We don't need more creative accounting to justify spending; we need fiscal discipline, lower taxes, and policies that prioritize working-class affordability over bureaucratic maneuvers. True budget stability comes from responsible spending, not tweaking forecasts to shrink refunds.

I urge the committee to reject HB 4125 and protect the kicker as a tool for taxpayer relief. Oregon families deserve transparency and fairness, not changes that could shortchange them.

Thank you for considering this testimony.

Sincerely,

Ciatta Thompson
Candidate for Oregon House District 33
NW Portland