

Submitter:

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On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4125

Greetings

I'm writing in support of reforming the kicker. The way we do the budget in Oregon by attempting to forecast revenue and then making a budget related to the attempted forecast, but then when the forecast is off refunding the money to our constituents does not make any sense. We should be using the extra money to set up a strong general fund so that the state of Oregon can run more smoothly.

Our children are suffering with underfunded schools - buildings that are crumbling, lack of staff and support. And it shows! We are at the bottom of the nation- number 49 in school achievement. We are throwing away our next generation. These are the kids who have to grow up to become scientists, doctors, teachers and lawyers. People who are going to need professional careers and it starts with a good public education

Oregon is not a cheap place to live. It's expensive to run the schools. We are throwing away our next generation. We've been throwing away kids for a long time. I know about this as I have a child who has been thrown away by an education system that does not have the resources to work with all children. I was forced to homeschool him while single parenting and holding down a job.

The lack of school funding adversely impact students with disabilities and under resourced families more than kids of higher socioeconomic status who can weather the storm of a poor education.

The teachers are doing the best they can with limited resources and every year more and more is piled up upon them

If we reformed the kicker, we could create a stable fund in the state that would be able to supply and finance the schools in a way that is appropriate. If we funded our QEM model and then added some accountability standards along with maybe a centralized curriculum standards across the state, we could see an improvement in our schools!

But nothing can really happen if we don't have the money.

Please support this much needed bill.

Sara Schultz