

Submitter:	Samuel Brewer
On Behalf Of:	The People
Committee:	House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	HB4125

Hello,

I would like to make clear that this bill appears to be a move to allow cash to be pushed wherever our legislators please.

Firstly, The status quo is a surplus of 2% or more must go back to the people. The 2% remains the same. However, the forecast methodology itself will be changed to be more "conservative". This meaning an aggressive overestimation of the budget creates a smaller surplus effectively ensuring no surplus for the taxpayer. This is a backdoor method to reduce the kicker without asking for the voting taxpayer's permission. Now, surplus partially takes the appearance of a "emergency expenses" account with no exact mandated limitations. The risks of this are apparent. Government misuse of this fund is inevitable.

Secondly, the forecast methodology itself will be changed to be more "conservative" and that the state is methodology from "nationally recognized data vendors". This outsourcing of Oregon's economic analysis removes all accountability from our government. Should a private projection show there is no surplus, there is no recourse for the taxpayer.

Thirdly, this bill exchanges equality for equity equality. Currently your return is proportional to what is paid. This bill suggests a flat refund that will heavily impact both the poor and the wealthy. I must say it is a good thing to care for those who are less fortunate but the cost is shouldered by those who owe them nothing. An unfair situation considering the wealthy already pay higher percentages. It is no longer a gift to the poor but an unjust reallocation of wealth.

For these reasons I oppose this bill,

Samuel Brewer