

Submitter:

Michelle Groce

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4125

Chair Nathanson, Co-Vice Chairs Reschke and Walters, members of the committee:

My name is Michelle Groce. I am a resident of House District 27 and a Beaverton School District parent. I am writing to urge your support of HB4125, to modernize the kicker.

Oregon's current tax procedures are, frankly, bizarre. You tax Oregon residents, refund a large portion of that tax, and then make massive cuts to essential government programs and services because of lack of funding. It sure seems like the supposed "surplus" being refunded to taxpayers through the kicker is not actually surplus funding, but in fact desperately needed for the state budget.

Insult is piled on top of injury when taxpayers are asked if they want to "donate" their kicker to fund K-12 education. The whole concept of taxation is that we all ought to chip in to fund the programs that benefit our entire society! Our public school system is literally how we invest in our children, the future of our state. Our children should not have to rely on the random good will of a few in order to have their education adequately funded - it should be mandatory and guaranteed by our government. HB4125 moves to correct this by allocating retained funding for K-12 public education.

HB4125 is a good start toward giving Oregon public schools a more solid foundation and offering our children the academic excellence they deserve for a bright future. Please support this bill and pass it into law.