

Submitter: Kayley Harrington

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4125

I am writing to express my strong support for the passage of HB 4125.

Oregon's public systems and institutions require stable, sustainable funding. Currently, our funding structure is not only unstable but disproportionately benefits those with the greatest wealth. State resources should be used to support programs and services that benefit all Oregonians, rather than contributing to the already wealthy elite.

Our schools, in particular, are in urgent need of additional resources. Teachers need adequate support, and students deserve learning environments that allow them to thrive. Meaningful change requires meaningful reform - reform that provides long term, reliable funding. School districts across Oregon are facing midyear budget cuts, which are deeply disruptive and harmful to students and to the future of our state. We can and must do better.

HB 4125 offers the potential for long-term, sustainable investment in education and other essential public services. As a public school parent of a first-grade student, I am looking for solutions that will have a tangible impact while my child is still in school. The choices we make now will shape his experiences throughout his education journey, and it is critical that we act with that future in mind.

At my child's school and others across the state, school has been canceled due to excessive heat and related health risks inside the school building. This is unacceptable and should concern all of us. The impacts of climate change are already affecting our children, and our public infrastructure is not keeping pace with these realities. We need solutions that are ambitious enough to meet the scale of the problem. HB 4125 is one such solution.