

Submitter: Thomas Busse  
On Behalf Of: The QEM is Unrealistic  
Committee: House Committee On Education  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4050

I am a 30-year experienced government and nonprofit budgeting professional, and I have some experience with school district and community college district financing. In 2017, I accurately predicted the San Francisco Community College District's February 2020 fiscal crisis by assembling publicly available data, and I uncovered a plot by the Vice chancellor for Administration and Finance to deliberately engineer the fiscal crisis to catalyze a permanent tax increase. I am currently the Treasurer of the Libertarian Party of Oregon.

I am unsure if this is a gut and amend bill, but if it is not, then I urge the legislation to specifically address Oregon's Quality Education Model. The QEM is in my professional opinion bloated and unrealistic. An external study by the Legislative Policy Analyst is likely to come to different conclusions than the Quality Education Commission, which is packed with special interests. I urge this legislation be amended to specifically provide external analysis of the current QEM report.

Since 2014, Oregon Educational spending has significantly outpaced inflation, but outcomes have significantly plummeted. The QEM was used to justify such policy changes as the CAT, but years after shoveling taxpayer funds at school districts, they continue to decline. An independent study of Oregon Education spending might give the legislature the tools they need to do their job of getting rid of the "Quality" Education Commission altogether.