

Submitter: Tanya Macedo
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4143

Testimony in Support of HB 4143

Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Tanya Macedo, and I am here today to express my strong support for HB 4143.

This bill is an important step toward protecting Oregon's ability to govern responsibly and to stand up for our communities when federal funding is withheld unfairly or used as leverage. Oregon relies on federal funds to deliver essential services—from infrastructure and environmental protection to public health and safety. When those funds are delayed or withheld for reasons unrelated to program performance or compliance, it is ultimately Oregonians who bear the cost.

HB 4143 provides the state with a necessary and reasonable tool: the ability to withhold payments owed to the federal government when federal funds are being unjustly withheld from Oregon. This creates accountability and balance in the federal-state relationship, rather than leaving states with no meaningful recourse.

Equally important, this bill protects state officials and employees from civil liability for carrying out this policy choice. Public servants should not be personally exposed to lawsuits for implementing actions authorized by the Legislature and taken in the best interest of the state.

At its core, HB 4143 is about fairness, fiscal responsibility, and protecting Oregon's sovereignty. It ensures that Oregon can respond thoughtfully and lawfully when federal actions threaten the stability of programs our residents depend on.

I urge the committee to support HB 4143 and help ensure Oregon has the tools it needs to protect its people and its resources.

Thank you for your time and consideration.