

Submitter: Heidi Edwards
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1507

My name is Heidi Edwards, I am a community member.

Essential state and federal services that millions of Oregonians rely on are at risk of severe funding cuts due to H.R. 1 and the Trump Administration's agenda. While Oregon faces the loss of billions in federal funds, the wealthiest earners and out-of-state corporations stand to gain massive tax breaks. This is unacceptable for our state and its people.

If we do not decouple from these federal tax codes, Oregon will be forced to make devastating cuts to essential services that millions rely on. Without action, the impacts will be severe: Employment-Related Day Care will run out of money by January 2027 unless the current legislature fills its \$88 million shortfall; food banks will be overwhelmed as federal SNAP funds are withdrawn, leaving critical gaps in food security; hundreds of thousands of Oregonians stand to lose health care coverage due to the largest funding cut in Medicaid/Oregon Health Plan history. These are just a few examples of what's at risk if we remain bound to a federal system that prioritizes tax breaks for the wealthy over the well-being of our communities.

I support the state disconnecting from the federal tax code because I am a government advocacy worker at a community college -- I don't have anything to share personally, but: The expense of childcare is unfortunately hard to afford, and the fully employed pay their full paycheck to childcare so "why be employed when I have to pay that amount of money?" I work with a lot of people who are going into Early Childhood Education and we don't pay them what they need to be paid to make a good living wage for one--and to maintain them in that profession. I paid a couple thousand dollars a month to have them in childcare. Folks living in minimum wage jobs, the system is really broken for them. How do you balance work and a college education on top of affording everything? A lot of the work I do with education is really trying to message the importance of funding higher education and K-12, but really looking at that continuum.

My biggest ask is not dipping into the Oregon Progress and Oregon Opportunity grant.

On tax disconnect: There are some things with HB1 that are absolutely atrocious. We're taking away from public education and incentivizing private education.

It's pouring in Oregon. I urge you not to bend the knee to the Trump Administration

and disconnect from the federal tax codes so that Oregonians don't lose the essential services we heavily rely on.

Thank you,
Heidi Edwards