

# OREGON WORKING FAMILIES PARTY

## Testimony on SB 1507

To: Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue

From: Annie Naranjo-Rivera, Oregon Working Families Party

Feb 3rd, 2026

Chair Broadman, Vice Chair McLane, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Annie Naranjo-Rivera, and I serve as the State Director of the Oregon Working Families Party. We are a grassroots, multiracial, political organization made up of community-based organizations and unions who are committed to building a society that works for all of us, not just the wealthy and well-connected. We advocate for economic justice, racial equity, and a democracy that centers working people and their communities. I write today on behalf of the thousands of working people we represent across this state, in vehement opposition to state budget cuts at a time when we have the power to act to prevent the devastation to working families that will be felt across the state.

We had the opportunity to disconnect from the HRI tax breaks last year. HRI tax changes primarily benefit the ultra wealthy in our state, and even if we disconnect here in Oregon, as so many other states have already done, the ultrawealthy would get the benefit of their federal tax handouts. We must think about what is best for the working people of Oregon who are already struggling and make the moral choice.

Fighting to stop the gutting of Oregon is not a right or left issue, it's a right or wrong issue. I hear from people everyday who are in disbelief that in a state like ours, we are struggling to find the votes to protect Oregon's working families as the frontline of defense against cuts to critical services. These

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issues should not be partisan. We do not need to check the party affiliation of those who gave testimony at Ways and Means last night—the child with an empty belly whose family has had SNAP benefits cut, or the single mom begging for her developmentally disabled child to continue to get her care funded—to know that they are at the brink, *barely holding on*. What we do know is that both the Democratic and Republican parties need to have a reckoning if we are to overcome this crisis. Rather than putting all of the heartbreaking advocates into a dog fight, a race to the bottom over scraps, we must find the political courage to rethink the way our state does business, and begin to hold the ultrawealthy and multinational corporations accountable to pay their fair share of taxes.

We know everyday people are struggling as is, let alone when new budget cuts go into effect, but you don't have to run a political party to see that the cuts being handed down are terrifying to families who are already unable to keep food on the table, pay utility bills, rent or pay for needed childcare or medical treatments. The compounding crises that Oregon working families face are intersectional and have a direct impact on the economic health of our state.

We need to be grounded in this reality because our elected leaders in Oregon are making a choice. Many are saying these cuts are inevitable. Handouts to the ultra wealthy are inevitable. This is not a question of possibility but of political will and moral courage. We have been told — again and again by some elected leaders — that we must prioritize tax giveaways to mega corporations and billionaires. That this is necessary for the “business climate.” But let's be very clear, giving handouts to the ultrawealthy at a time like this is outrageous. Especially when we're already looking at cuts to every state service that people depend on.

Do we have the political will and moral courage to protect the people at the margins for whom these budget cuts decisions are life and death? We can CHOOSE to prioritize working families in Oregon. We SHOULD have the votes to

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do the right thing. The question is who does our state govern for?

On behalf of the Oregon Working Families Party, I write in support of **SB1507**, and call on you to fight to raise revenue through tax accountability, rejection of mirroring HR1 tax policy in Oregon, and the strongest disconnect package possible.

Sincerely,

*Annie Naranjo-Rivera*

*State Director*

*Oregon Working Families Party*