

Submitter: Yvette Rosales
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1507

Co-Chairs and members of the committee,

Thanks to funding of Oregon community colleges and state schools, I was able to complete my undergraduate degree without going into student debt. As a first generation college student and second generation migrant, I am grateful to now work at the community college I once attended as a student, but its unconscionable that the students I teach now may not be afforded that same opportunities due to cuts. If tuition is raised, we are telling poorer students that they can't access education. This will disproportionately effect our students of color across the state and the children of migrants who come to Oregon for refuge and a better life. ALL students of our state deserve access to higher education. Fund education like the public good it is.

As our voice in Salem, we are counting on you to reject some of the most egregious and costly tax breaks for corporations and the wealthy and prevent cuts to public safety, schools, childcare, and other critical services. That begins with voting yes on SB 1507.

SB 1507 helps recoup \$311.6 million in funding for programs Oregonians care about by “disconnecting” Oregon from automatically mirroring some of the most costly tax loopholes in H.R. 1, the disastrous budget bill signed by President Trump.

To be clear, there is more work to do beyond SB 1507. There is still a larger budget gap to close, and balancing the budget by slashing programs Oregonians rely on is the wrong approach. But one thing is certain: passing SB 1507 is a critical first step in addressing the budget crisis created by H.R. 1.

The decision before you and your colleagues this session should be clear: Prioritize protecting Oregon families, not further enriching the ultra-wealthy.

Please vote YES on SB 1507.

Thank you.