

Submitter: Brittany Ivy
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1507
Co-Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Brittany, and I live in Salem, Oregon. I am writing today in support of SB 1507 — not as a policy expert, but as a parent, a working professional, and someone doing everything possible to keep my family stable during a time when many families are struggling to stay afloat. As a parent supporting a high school senior and a younger child in second grade, our family feels the weight of rising costs every single day. Like many Oregonians, we work hard and do our best to plan responsibly, yet we are still met with real financial pressure just to keep food on the table and a roof over our heads. Budget decisions made at the state level are not abstract to us — they show up in our homes, our schools, and our daily stress.

Working over ten years in payroll and HR, I see firsthand how affordability is impacting families across income levels. The poverty threshold does not reflect what I see in the workforce. Many people who work full time are still not making a livable wage. They are choosing between essentials, trying to stretch paychecks that simply don't go far enough. These are hardworking people who are not asking for handouts — they are asking for a fair chance to keep up. Most families are forced to file for some kind of relief in bankruptcy because of the continued rising costs of food, rent, taxes, etc. Reliable health coverage has also been essential for my family. Both of our children struggle with ADHD and rely on support systems like IEPs and 504 plans to succeed in school. Healthcare and mental health services are not optional for us — they are part of how we survive and function. I also live with severe depression and anxiety, and therapy has been critical in helping me continue showing up as a parent while managing everything life has placed on our family's shoulders. Education stability matters deeply in our home. When schools are stretched thin, it becomes harder for parents to fill the gaps. There are moments when I can no longer help my children understand what they are learning because resources simply aren't there.

Our educators are being asked to carry more than ever — not just teaching but supporting children facing complex challenges and severe family dynamics. They deserve better support, better funding, and better pay for the work they do shaping our children's futures. To me, SB 1507 represents a choice to protect stability — to protect education, healthcare, and services that families quietly depend on every day. When those supports disappear, families absorb the impact, and many of us are already stretched as far as we can go. This is not about politics for me. It is about real life. It is about children who need stability, parents who are trying their best, and

communities that rely on consistent support to stay strong. Our children are the future leaders of this state and this world. The decisions made now will determine whether they grow up in communities that invest in them — or ones that ask them to do more with less. I respectfully ask you to support SB 1507. Thank you for your time and for listening to the lived experiences behind these decisions. Sincerely, Brittany Ivy
Salem, Oregon