

Submitter: Betsy Verhoeven
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1507

Co-Chairs and members of the committee,

In my community, I see families on both ends of the political spectrum deciding not to send their children to public schools. They are worried about the quality of education and the resources available to their kids. Public school and public education should be a place where communities can come together and people can know their neighbors. Yet, schools are cash strapped, underfunded, educators over-worked and families are losing trust in their schools. We must invest in our schools and our children, both K-12 and higher education. SB 1507 is a necessary first step to provide needed funds to our educators and our students.

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,
Betsy Verhoeven