

Submitter: Tiffany St ClaireKing
On Behalf Of: AFT Oregon HCU
Committee: House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1507

My name is Tiffany St. Claire-King. I am an Oregon voter in Washington county, a homeowner, a taxpayer, a parent, and a member of Hillsboro Classified United local and on the AFT - Oregon union executive board. I urge a yes vote on this bill. We need to do the fiscally responsible thing for Oregon and plug the gaping holes in our budget that the unfair federal tax cuts will push on us. Please help working families by giving them the extended Earned Income Credit included in this bill. I am not opposed to well crafted, targeted tax breaks for good corporate citizens such as Intel, but blanket tax cuts for the wealthy in this time of fiscal crisis are irresponsible and are the wrong way to proceed. Rural schools are no stranger to tight budgets, but they can only tighten the belt so far. I personally grew up in a rural area and attended under-funded public schools, but luckily our volunteer school board prioritized retaining excellent teachers over building maintenance and modern textbooks. Our school desks were so old that they had holes for inkwells. Our science textbook said "One day, man may reach the moon." Nevertheless, the teachers were so great at their jobs that I had a great education. Rural schools don't have the tax base to get adequate funding through local levies because the money just isn't there.