



February 18, 2026

Good afternoon Chair Nathanson, Vice-Chair Walters, and Reschke,

My name is Odalis Aguilar Aguilar and I am a political coordinator at Oregon AFSCME. Our union represents over 42,000 workers across state agencies like the Department of Corrections and those who work in non-profit behavioral health facilities and we believe in economic and social justice for all Oregon workers and their families.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony for SB 1507A. Like many, we're concerned about the services being cut due to the budget bill passed by congress and recognize the unpredictability we are facing due to the federal government. Cutting services without making strategic decisions about investments to maintain services causes anxiety and sends a chilling effect to the communities impacted.

There is urgency to pass SB 1507A, as we've heard economists present about this "K" shaped economy that points to the inequality the low and working class are experiencing. We heard that higher income earners are not living paycheck to paycheck like most Oregonians are who you represent.

Our organization supports this concept because it supports the most vulnerable and working families. This proposal preserves no tax on overtime and tips which our union supports— overall, SB 1507A can help the legislature be more strategic with our budget and deliver relief to the families that need it most. The bill will reclaim about \$300 million in revenue stripped by H.R. 1, while lowering taxes for more than 200,000 low-to-moderate income households.

While we support and are appreciative of the stakeholders involved in order to craft this policy, we also believe there must be robust conversations about making sure we continue to have talk about investing dollars back right into the workforce that exists and support communities in Oregon.