

Submitter: Elaine Daggett
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1507
To: House Revenue Committee
Date: 2/16/26
From: Elaine Daggett
Re: Support for SB 1507

Chair Nathanson, Vice-Chairs Walters and Reschke, and members of the committee....

Essential state and federal services that millions of Oregonians rely on are at risk of severe funding cuts due to H.R. 1 and the Trump Administration's agenda. While Oregon faces the loss of billions in federal funds, the wealthiest earners and out-of-state corporations stand to gain massive tax breaks. This is unacceptable for our state and its people.

If we do not decouple from these federal tax codes, Oregon will be forced to make devastating cuts to essential services that millions rely on. Without action, the impacts will be severe: Employment-Related Day Care will run out of money by January 2027 unless the current legislature fills its \$88 million shortfall; food banks will be overwhelmed as federal SNAP funds are withdrawn, leaving critical gaps in food security; hundreds of thousands of Oregonians stand to lose health care coverage due to the largest funding cut in Medicaid/Oregon Health Plan history. These are just a few examples of what's at risk if we remain bound to a federal system that prioritizes tax breaks for the wealthy over the well-being of our communities.

My family has been very fortunate to be enrolled in the ERDC program, allowing me to send my younger daughter to a quality in-home daycare from 2022 through the present time. I am a single parent and though I am employed and hold a good job, the full cost of daycare would overwhelm my limited financial means. ERDC has helped lift me up from significant financial challenges in the first year of my daughter's life and allowed me to build a solid foundation for the start of her elementary years. Without the program I don't know how I could have afforded a safe, comfortable and welcoming home environment with healthy food on the table every day. I know that many families are not so lucky as mine and they were not able to sign up for the ERDC program before the waitlist became a nearly insurmountable barrier to the program. I feel truly blessed to have had state support for daycare that leaves me adequate time to work and gives my daughter a safe and positive environment to spend the day during the work week. I am able to contribute fully to

the workforce knowing that my daughter has excellent child care. I am sure that without ERDC I would be piecing together having my daughter at home with me while I work, asking family to help when they can, and paying out of pocket for babysitters. The stability of ERDC has allowed me to offer stability to my family, which allows us all to thrive.

Thank you
Elaine Daggett