

Submitter: Cara Verelley
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1507

Co-Chairs and members of the committee,

I work in Clackamas and we are seeing concerns that critical staff could be cut (school social workers, engagement specialists, cultural liaisons, instructional assistants); as well as no funding available to hire more teachers so that our high schoolers can meet the new ODE graduation requirements of taking a Financial Literacy class. Staffing was already stretched thin, and we cannot afford to lose more staff or take on more instructional requirements without adding FTE to support it.

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.