

Submitter: Donna Cohen
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4143
Testimony HB 4143 – In support
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Among the many instances of this federal administration ignoring our laws has been its threats and actions regarding the withholding of funds that are due to states. In most cases the President does not have jurisdiction over monies which have been appropriated and allocated to the states. And when a judicial order has informed the executive branch that monies for the states are not to be interfered with Oregon should have recourse to protest, with teeth.

HB 4143 requires a valid court order, and agreement from the Governor, the Attorney General, and the State Treasurer, at which point the state would have the authority to temporarily withhold payments to the federal government which Oregon would have otherwise sent. Once federal funds are lawfully released, Oregon will respond in kind.

We are living under a federal administration which functions on emotion and whims – but the consequences of its actions are real. Oregon has every right to protect itself when threatened with being shortchanged funds we desperately need.

Thank you. I hope this bill becomes law.