

2015 Ways & Means Field Hearing-- La Grande, Oregon
April 10, 2015

My name is Robert Messinger, from Summerville in Union County, Oregon. I am a retired professional forester. I am a member of the OSU Extension Advisory Committee locally and chairperson of the Budget Committee. I am here to ask for your committee's support of SB 657.

The local 4H and Extension programs are of vital importance to the communities of Northeast Oregon. The program recorded 23,718 direct individual contacts with youth and adults in our region-from Union County based faculty, 11,513 indirect contacts, 224,437 media contacts, and was assisted by 128 volunteers. The local program areas include Family & Community Health, Crops, Forestry, 4-H, and Master Gardeners. The local Extension staff members also participate in a wide variety of community based coalitions, boards, and planning committees.

As members of the joint Ways and Means Committee, you know that SB 657 provides for an investment of \$16 million to strengthen OSU programs serving both natural resources (agriculture, forestry and marine) and human resources (family, youth and community). Specifically these include, the OSU Extension Service, Oregon Agriculture Experiment Station (AES) and Oregon Forest Research Laboratory. This money is a needed investment in the future of our local communities. The 3% increase offered in the Governor's budget will be insufficient to allow our existing work to be fully funded. Without SB 657 funding some programs may have to be reduced or curtailed.

Although I am very supportive of all the OSU Extension Service programs, my special interest is in the Extension Forestry program. The program provides valuable resources and information tools to help private forest landowners manage their natural resources. The local extension foresters have developed a wide array of forestry education programs, newsletters and short courses designed to assist the private landowners in obtaining the technical information they need to properly manage their forest lands. Examples of these programs include:

- 1. Master Woodlands Program, a program that provides specialized training by OSU Forestry Extension for qualified family forest land owners to be effective volunteers & community leaders.*
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- 3. Blue Mountains Renewable Resources Newsletter, which contains important articles for land managers and helps to transfer current research findings and development information.*
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- 8. Tree insect and disease workshops and field trips*
- 9. Logging contract and log pricing information*

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*Robert Messinger
67826 Hunter Road
Summerville, Or 97876*

4/10/15

Distinguished members of the Ways and Means Committee: Good evening, my name is Meredith Lair and I am honored to be here this evening. Thank you for the opportunity to discuss our efforts to markedly improve the number of health care experts available to rural Oregon through health occupations education and outreach.

I am the executive director for Northeast Oregon Area Health Education Center, or NEOAHEC, located on campus here at Eastern Oregon University. In its 24th year, NEOAHEC has offered high quality, STEM and CTE rich pipeline programs to thousands of students from grade school to graduate school in direct partnership with EOU and under the leadership and direction of Oregon Health and Science University, with the ultimate goal of growing our own medical professionals.

There are four Area Health Education Centers in Oregon with our program office and budget located within OHSU. NEOAHEC has a flourishing partnership with EOU who is community driven and regionally focused. Like EOU, we have a large geographic span serving 11 counties in Northeast Oregon from the Idaho border to Hood River.

Our geography and ability to nimbly adapt to meet the unique needs of students in our frontier communities gives EOU and NEOAHEC the opportunity to serve students interested in Math, Science, Technology or a Health Career with comprehensive programs like Girls In Science, Saturday Science, Future Health Professionals of Oregon, an online health occupations course perfectly designed for frontier high school students, and MedQuest, our residential health career exploration camp. Without these opportunities many students in our region would not have any exposure to health occupations training.

A great testament to our work is our students that go onto practice medicine in a rural community and those we are able to track through our pipeline along their way.

Following his passion wasn't always easy for John Combe who is now works as a Nationally Certified Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork therapist in La Grande and has the distinguished honor to work on athletes at the summer Olympic games. John's participation as one of NEOAHEC's first MedQuest campers helped by immersing him in the health care culture. He has now assumed the role of mentor and teacher for young students supporting them to become health professionals.

Dr. Steve Koza, a local dentist, OHSU alumnus, and NEOAHEC MedQuest camper, counselor and now volunteer preceptor and financial supporter, was given a scholarship by NEOAHEC to attend a Dental Careers Institute. He was one of the two youngest students in his graduating class from OHSU. He owns Koza Family Dental Care clinic in La Grande, stretching his impact on the community by employing ten in his clinic. In addition to basic family dental care, Koza also works as a clinical instructor and is a past chair of the NEOAHEC board.

We started tracking current students like Bailey earlier in the pipeline as she participated in our Girls in Science middle school camp, MedQuest as a student and counselor, OHSU's Med Stars Camp, and is now an undergraduate student at EOU pursuing a pre-health degree to go onto a physical therapy program with the intention of coming back to serve a rural community.

Another way we grow our own medical professionals is to provide OHSU with a pool of deserving and well-qualified students for our state's Scholars for Healthy Oregon Program or SHOI. SHOI was created last year providing \$2.5 million in scholarships to incentivize students from or with ties to Oregon to serve our state's rural medical needs after graduation. I had the distinct pleasure of meeting one of the scholarship recipients

who is from Pendleton at a reception this winter. Elizabeth is in her first year of the Physician Assistant program and is already being sought after to practice at a clinic in Pendleton upon her graduation, illustrating the overwhelming demand for practitioners in rural Oregon and why OHSU and the state of Oregon has made such a worthy investment in rural healthcare. Elizabeth said the training to become a Physician's Assistant is rewarding and intense and said the experience is made easier by knowing she won't graduate with huge student loans hanging over her head.

NEOAHEC continues to work diligently to achieve excellent outcomes to address the healthcare professional shortage that only continues to grow. As you can see students from a rural background, given tools from AHEC programs come back to serve the rural communities they came from. I thank your committee for your support of AHEC and rural healthcare outlined in the OHSU budget and your support of our greatest partner, Eastern Oregon University.

Thank you so much for this opportunity to appear before the committee.

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I would like your support on all efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions HB3250. This could definitely justify use of the emergency clause.

I support any and all efforts to remove incentives for illegal aliens to work and/or live/remain in this state. We do not have the resources to accommodate this population and illegal immigration is not a healthy input into today's society.

Charles L. LeBold
Union, OR
541-562-6153

4/10/2015

Hi. My name is Rebecca Elliott. I'm from La Grande. I'm here tonight on behalf of many other parents who could not be here.

I am simply a mother.

My three children are here with me tonight. I love them FIERCELY. When I become a mother, they instantly became the most important thing in my life. Every decision I make for them is carefully weighed and considered. I am their mother: I know them better than anyone else in the world. I alone know what is in the very best interest of my my children.

Senator Steiner Hayward:

I HAVE NEVER, and WILL NEVER need the stamp of approval from a doctor, teacher, dentist or any other type of professional to tell me that my choice for them is okay, and I abhor you for thinking that is something you should mandate. It is an erosion of my parental rights and I will not accept it, nor will my fellow Oregonians.

We are not frogs. We realize you are progressively turning up the heat, and we will not stand by complacently and allow it. When SB 442 was defeated in the medical committee, you simply revamped it and are now trying to bring it through the educational committee with SB 895. It's is underhanded and sneaky.

You are in a position that was created to SERVE the people. To exercise THEIR WILL, not your own. Please remember that.

From: [Dale Inslee](#)
To: [waysandmeans budget](#)
Subject: Roadshow La Grande
Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2015 8:06:17 AM
Attachments: [OHA Bonding Package One Pager \(2\).pdf](#)

First I regret not being able to speak in person to the committee, and to thank you for this alternate means to express our needs in eastern Oregon.

I represent the Northeast Oregon Housing Authority, needless to say we house the less fortunate folks of Union, Baker, Grant, and Wallowa counties. Although in a rural setting we are experiencing a shortage of safe decent and affordable housing, the rents are higher than average wages can support, the housing stock is out dated and run down, are most resent 38 unit LIHTC project was the first to be built in over 20 yrs. Now this modern energy efficient safe and decent complex has 193 families on the waiting list and we haven't completed the project yet. This one fact shows the need for more housing in our area. There are families in motels, storage units and worse awaiting emergency housing from the community action groups but the need far exceeds the supply.

Please consider the \$100,000,000 bond initiative to end homelessness and develop affordable housing in Eastern Oregon also.

(see attached one pager)

Have a Great Day

~Dale Inslee

P.H.M. Executive Director

Northeast Oregon Housing Authority

2608 May Lane / P.O. Box 3357, La Grande, OR 97850

Office: 541-963-5726 / Cell: 541.910.0595

dinslee@gmail.com / www.neoha.org

Housing The People of Eastern Oregon



Oregon needs innovative approaches to meet growing housing needs

\$100 million needed for affordable housing

Oregon Housing Authorities (OHA), the statewide association of public housing authorities, strongly supports the proposed bonding package that will allocate \$100 million for Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) to develop new affordable housing units. As both administrators of the Section 8 program, and as owners and developers of affordable housing, we know first-hand the dire need for this resource across the State of Oregon. There are communities in Deschutes, Linn, Benton and Jackson County where securing a low-cost rental unit is virtually impossible. Throughout the state, too many families are rent-burdened, meaning they spend more than a third of their income on rent. The lack of affordable housing increases homelessness and displacement for low-income families and their children.

Community benefits to housing stability

Everyone needs a safe place to call home. We know that children are more successful in school and have better health when their housing is stable. We know that families can better manage their health when they are not burdened with rents that exceed a third of their income. Currently, too many families must choose between paying their rent, their bills, or buying food and medicine. In such situations, there is no right choice. Increasing the state's supply of affordable housing in all settings –rural, urban and suburban, will help make rents better fit their household budget.

Our commitment to make it work

OHA will work in partnership with OHCS to help develop a comprehensive investment strategy for the \$100 million that will best meet the needs of low-income Oregonians. Our goal will be to have these funds leverage federal programs and federal funding including HUD's Rental Assistance Demonstration program, the preservation of public housing, project based Section 8 and other resources managed by OHA members. The resources and needs of OHA members are unique and OHCS will need to deliberately factor in these opportunities and challenges as it puts together a thoughtful investment strategy. Further, these funds have an opportunity to be flexible and adaptable to the unique and dynamic nature of the real estate market in communities across the great state of Oregon.



Who we are

The 22 agencies of Oregon Housing Authorities (OHA) are committed to providing safe and affordable housing to Oregonians facing income, disability or other life challenges.

We believe children, seniors, and people with disabilities need a place to call home in order to be healthy and successful in life. Our members work collaboratively to bring increased visibility and a united voice for affordable housing to Oregon.

Rental assistance

- OHA delivers rental assistance to 33,600 low-income Oregon households.
- We own and manage more than 5,500 units of public housing for low-income families, seniors and people with disabilities.
- We give more than 36,000 children a place to call home
- Every year, housing authorities distribute more than \$176 million in rental assistance payments to 12,800 private landlords throughout Oregon.

Development

Oregon Housing Authorities have built and acquired more than 10,400 units of affordable housing throughout the state and currently have more than 1,300 new units in the development pipeline. We work with public and private partners to finance and build affordable housing that fits communities and boosts local economies. We believe the dream of quality, sustainably-built affordable housing can be best achieved by partnership and the successful leveraging of local, state and federal funding resources.

My name is Sharon Beck. I am a 4th generation cattle producer on our ranch. I am a past president of the century old Oregon Cattlemen's Association. I represented the livestock industry on the original advisory committee to ODFW in developing the states plan to "Conserve and manage wolves". I am still on the OCA wolf committee and advisory to Oregon State University's wolf research.

Following a year of meetings and intense discussions the ODFW staff wrote the plan and all but 2 of the advisory committee voted to send it to the Fish and Wildlife Commission for adoption. I voted no, wrote a 21 page minority report which included appendices addressing category A issues, a compensation model and a concept for wolf management zoning. I also submitted a 7 page Legal Status Minority opinion that promotes the argument that the Plan is unnecessary and violates the Oregon Endangered Species Act. Neither the County Commissioner who wrote a minority report as well, nor I were successful in even convincing the agency to delay adoption of the plan until after the legislature approved the changes in law required to fully implement the plan. Consequently full and fair compensation for wolf predation on livestock has never happened and management to reduce conflict has been woefully inadequate.

Fast forward to today and we see wolf populations have increased exponentially just as we predicted, as has livestock predation, crashing deer and elk populations, and ODFW has huge shortfall in their budget of some 30 million. With lack of animals to hunt fewer tags are sold and the plans prediction that ungulate populations would not suffer and that wolf watching tourists would more than make up for any economic loss attributable to wolves, failed to materialize.

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife touted to the public that they had developed a wolf plan that is flexible, fair and balanced, that gives people who will be harmed by wolves', tools to deal with them in a way that also satisfies the desires of those who want Oregon repopulated with wolves. Fish and Wildlife Commission adopted the plan over the objections of those who will be most affected because it does **not** give choices...it takes them away, putting ranchers at

great risk of social, economic and physical loss. It is not fair, it is not balanced and any flexibility is biased toward preservation of wolves.

Private lands are home to 80% of the state's wildlife. While we have not always been willing hosts because they have taken income from us directly and through indirect costs, we have worked with wildlife managers to solve conflicts and when they weren't solved we have been forced to tolerate them. It is now very clear that livestock and wolves cannot coexist and that huntable wildlife cannot thrive without extreme control of wolf numbers.

So what can you do?

Idaho has been immediately removing wolves that attack livestock and thereby reducing predation by 40%. The added bonus is that surviving wolves learn to fear anything connected to humans and tend to stay away. A line item in the ODFW budget for that purpose only, taking the money from all the non-lethal methods that we now know are ineffective in controlling predation. Legislatively remove wolves from the Oregon endangered species list, saving ODFW all the costs of going through the delisting process and then being sued because of some technicality. Require ODFW to amend the plan to address wolf "management" now that they have been "conserved" and require full and fair compensation for wolf predations on livestock to come out of their budget. Require ODFW to restore our rights to protect our persons and property on our grazing lands to control wolves in the most effective, efficient way.

I. CATEGORY A ISSUES

The livestock industry will support a plan:

That does fully and fairly compensates for depredation of livestock as defined in the draft paper written by Sharon Beck

That provides the tools and the latitude to aggressively mitigate livestock-wolf conflict.

Requires the plan to identify "no wolf zones" and "highly desirable wolf zones".

That requires ODFW to remove problem wolves by whatever means necessary to eliminate any future conflicts with the same wolf (wolves).

That declares that "significant suitable habitat exists by identifying through prior analysis how it meets the "suitable habitat" label when measured against the Conservation Plan's guiding principles and identifying exactly *where* such habitat exists.

That treats the state as a whole for purposes of delisting.

That prevents the transplantation of wolves.

That requires that if minimum numbers are used to fulfill the requirements for delisting (a "conserved" number) an accompanying maximum number will be adopted beyond which wolves will not be able to grow.

That allows for management and monitoring according to the Conservation Plan from the very first wolf entering Oregon until the last one leaves.

That is consistent with the Federal 4(d) rules for the Western Distinct Population Segment of wolves at every level and all ways.

That would be no more onerous than the freedoms provided upon a federal delisting once that occurs.

That will be implemented only with a dedicated budget and necessary funding to pay for all the provisions of the Conservation Plan.

Budget Up 1200

General Purpose Grant Analysis - Wallowa County School Districts

Superintendent

District 541 886 2061

Budget	General Purpose \$/ADMw	Enterprise	Joseph	Wallowa	Troy
\$6.550 B	2014-15 (49/51 split)*	\$ 7,130	\$ 6,821	\$ 7,003	\$ 7,431
\$7.235 B	2015-16 (49/51 split)**	\$ 7,009	\$ 6,706	\$ 6,885	\$ 7,305
	2015-16 (50/50 split)***	\$ 7,197	\$ 6,886	\$ 7,069	\$ 7,501
\$7.255 B	2015-16 (49/51 split)-projection	\$ 7,028	\$ 6,725	\$ 6,904	\$ 7,325
	2015-16 (50/50 split) - projection	\$ 7,217	\$ 6,905	\$ 7,089	\$ 7,522
\$7.500 B	2015-16 (49/51 split)-projection	\$ 7,265	\$ 6,951	\$ 7,136	\$ 7,572
	2015-16 (50/50 split) - projection	\$ 7,460	\$ 7,138	\$ 7,327	\$ 7,775

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Change 2014-15 to 2015-16

49/51 split						Net Impact: WC Schools
\$7.235 B	Actual	\$ (121)	\$ (115)	\$ (118)	\$ (126)	\$ (156,087)
	Relative	-1.70%	-1.69%	-1.68%	-1.70%	
\$7.255 B	Actual	\$ (102)	\$ (96)	\$ (99)	\$ (106)	\$ (130,996)
	Relative	-1.43%	-1.41%	-1.41%	-1.42%	
\$7.500 B	Actual	\$ 135	\$ 130	\$ 133	\$ 141	\$ 175,463
	Relative	1.89%	1.91%	1.91%	1.90%	

50/50 Split					
\$7.235 B	Actual	\$ 67	\$ 65	\$ 66	\$ 70
	Relative	0.9%	1.0%	0.9%	0.9%
\$7.255 B	Actual	\$ 87	\$ 84	\$ 86	\$ 91
	Relative	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%
\$7.500 B	Actual	\$ 330	\$ 317	\$ 324	\$ 344
	Relative	4.6%	4.6%	4.6%	4.6%

A change from \$7.235 Billion to \$7.255 Billion represents an 0.28% increase.

A change from \$7.235 Billion to \$7.5 Billion represents a 3.4% increase.

Using the traditional 49/51% split, districts in Wallowa County will receive almost 2% less from the State School Fund General Purpose Grant at \$7.235 Billion; projections show the impact will be 1.4% less at \$7.255 Billion and 1.9% more at \$7.5 Billion.

Using a 50/50 split, districts gain in actual dollars/ADMw - 1% at \$7.235 Billion, 1.2% at \$7.255 Billion, and 4.6% at \$7.5 Billion. However, increases of 1% and 1.2% will not cover increasing costs in salaries, benefits, transportation and facilities maintenance and represent a loss in purchasing power as costs are rising at more than 2%****.

\$7.5 Billion provides the opportunity for districts to maintain purchasing power and meet costs associated with inflation.

*<http://www.ode.state.or.us/services/ssf/2014-15-ssf-estimate-as-of-4-7-15-2230.pdf>

**<http://www.ode.state.or.us/services/ssf/2015-16-ssf-estimate-as-of-2-24-15-1145-hrs.pdf>

***<http://www.ode.state.or.us/services/ssf/2015-16-ssf-estimate-as-of-3-23-15-2120-hrs.pdf>

****http://www.bls.gov/regions/west/news-release/ConsumerPriceIndex_Portland.htm

1. Background

My name is Dennis Sheehy. We own and operate a family cattle ranch in Wallowa County. We are taxpayers, as well as participants in agricultural production which is the leading economic basis for the state. While we have nothing against wolves per se, we do have a responsibility to protect and care for our livestock. This is hard to do sometimes because our forest-steppe summer range is located in the middle of the Imnaha pack home range.

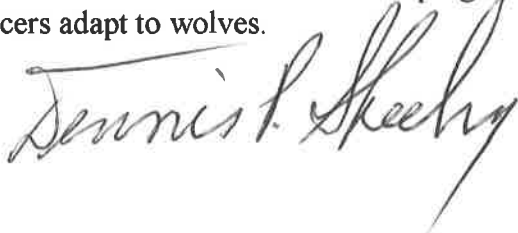
Wolves definitely belong to all of the people in the state of Oregon. About the time the first wolves were showing up in Oregon, a referendum was held that showed the citizens of Oregon overwhelmingly supported the reintroduction of wolves and the establishment of a sustainable wolf population in the state. The state, through ODFW, is also mandated to manage wolves in the state. In the wolf management plan, it was also stated quite explicitly that losses of livestock and working dogs to wolf predation should be compensated.

Livestock loss compensation program.

Wallowa County stockgrowers were instrumental in developing a livestock loss compensation program, which has been in effect for several years now. This program, although it does not resolve wolf predation of livestock, has been successfully applied in Wallowa County and is now being adopted by other counties that are experiencing establishment of wolf populations. This program has done more to mitigate wolf-livestock conflict than any other action taken by wolf support groups, the state through ODFW management, or other actions pursued by stockgrowers.

The main problem with the livestock loss compensation fund is that as wolves expand throughout the state, more and more counties want to participate in the program. This requires considerable more funding be provided to the compensation program if it to remain a viable and valuable program mitigating conflict between wolves and livestock producers.

The state should ensure that sufficient funds are committed to the compensation program as wolves expand throughout the state. From our perspective, the citizens of Oregon have committed to establishing a viable wolf population, it is a fair and ethical approach to mitigating conflict to some degree, the state has taken ownership of wolves, and it will help maintain the economic and social base of rural counties in Oregon. Also, the amount of money that is needed to provide sufficient monetary support for the compensation program to work is minimal compared to some other uses of state funds. The state can afford to financially sustain a program that has been successful. If the state of Oregon can afford to pay more than 400 million dollars to a failed health plan, it should be able to put a few hundred thousand dollars into a program that assists taxpayers and agricultural producers adapt to wolves.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Dennis P. Sheehy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

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Summerville, Or 97876*

Co-Chair Devlin, Co-Chair Buckley and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, I want to support two educational initiatives currently being considered by the Joint Ways & Means Education Subcommittee and for which we urge future consideration by the full Joint Ways & Means Committee.

The 2013 ECONorthwest study, *Conditions of Education for Oregon's Tribal Students*, identified reading and math proficiency among tribal-enrolled students lag their non-Indian counterparts. Most striking is that tribal-enrolled students had the highest levels of chronic absence and are five times more likely to attend one of the State's poorest performing schools. Oregon cannot reach its 40-40-20 goal without closing this achievement gap and the Oregon-Tribal government-to-government policy both requires and offers the perfect process to develop and implement the solutions.

First, we support funding a second Indian Education Specialist in the Oregon Department of Education and appreciate that Oregon rededicated funding for an Indian Education Specialist in the 2013-15 biennium budget after an approximate 10 year absence. The establishment of two permanent, full-time Education Specialist positions whose duties will be devoted to Native American education issues will assist in diminishing our American Indian/Alaska Native education achievement gap. We want to ensure that this position has all the necessary support so that success can be seen in the academic achievement of our students and other Native students across the State.

Second, we support the Tribal Attendance Pilot Project (TAPP). In response to the Study, Oregon's Government-to-Government Education Cluster discussed a range of **policy options and prioritized chronic absenteeism as one of the most critical problem to address and** as such one of the top government to government policy initiatives.

The Tribal Attendance Pilot Project would fund school and Tribe-based outreach liaisons or "family coordinators" to provide support services to schools, students, and their families. These outreach workers would know how to access community resources, negotiate boundaries between school and community and develop a culture of trust and success. Tribes will engage all students and parents in the school and as students miss school, they would provide personalized early outreach. The workers themselves would be culturally representative of the community and have deep community connections. The TAPP will provide a resource to students that will have positive outcomes in reducing absenteeism of Native students.

Ways & Means

Walt Wagner

La Grande

541.519.7609

10 April 2015

EOU, Gilbert Hall

April 10, 2015
Promise of Oregon?

Proposed \$7.255 Budget

- The Baker Story:
 - Since 2011, 147 days per year
 - Local Option Tax is impossible
 - 12.5% teacher RIF – no backfill
 - 28% admin RIF – limited backfill
 - 7.5% classified RIF – no backfill
- Class size limits to 35 – no backfill
- Loss of counseling to bare minimum

Proposed \$7.255 Budget cont'

- Curriculum – no adoptions
 - Reading coaches decreased
 - Math coaches, not supported
 - Writing coaches, not supported
- Pre-school – only @ remote sites

Proposed \$7.255 Budget cont'

- Full-day K – new this year in town
 - We had to fund facility ourselves
 - We have Full-day in our remote schools
- CTE → 40-40-20
 - More realistically we need 15-80-5
 - Grant funded or questions of sustainability
- ES Keyboarding, PE?

Proposed \$7.255 Budget cont'

- Summer School, extended day
- Safety Policy and Management
 - Radon & Earthquakes
 - Pepper Spray?
 - Incursions Protocol, hardening the schools

Pre-Recession

- No comparison possible, we have evolved to a new normal
 - BTI is fresh, not related to the past
 - Alternative programs are online, not related to the old concepts
 - Class size reduction and extra-time for students are not available
- Extra-Curricular reductions

New (Adequate \$7.875 b) Funding

- PE mandate
- Counseling program back to normal
- Summer School and Extended Day programs sustained
- Class size management
- BTL expansion and support
- TAG program
- GED program

New (Adequate, \$7.875 b)

Funding

- Pre-school
- Reading support – with curriculum
- Math coach – with curriculum development
- Writing coach – with curriculum development
- Extra Curricular Supports
 - Staff training
 - Sports
 - Fine Arts
 - Outdoor School

New (Adequate \$7.875 b)

Funding

- SPED & ELL
 - Sustained learning, minimum required
 - Labeled transition
 - Prison
 - Dependency cycle
 - Accelerated learning, money is time, time is repetition & support
 - Productive transition
 - Independent
 - Contribution to budget, state, family
- SPED from ~11% to ~18% is related to the minimal general services provided over recent years
 - Damage to general student populations
 - Damage to TAG, inventors and entrepreneurs
 - Damage to Oregon as a productive social system
- Where is the “Promise of Oregon?”

April 10, 2015

Promise of Oregon?

New (Adequate \$7.875 b) Funding

- When I came to Oregon 5 years ago the national average school funding was about \$11,300
- The QEM in Oregon was similar to that level
- You will have to add ~\$2,500 per child to the current funding to arrive at the QEM funding level
 - Diagnose and accelerate struggling students
 - Find, support and accelerate TAG students
 - Provide psychological supports for troubled, but otherwise capable, students
 - Broaden the scope of choices (in CTE, in academics & college prep, with pre-apprenticeship programs)
 - Reach out and assist families to succeed with the modern challenges of raising their children
- \$7.875 is barely adequate, but it is a good start!

50-50 Split

- This year it will roughly level our funding
 - Therefore, we will lose approximately the buying power of inflation
 - Assuming inflation is 3% that is the equivalent of one teacher in the classroom this year
- Next year it is a compound problem
 - Thus, we will lose the equivalent of a two teachers next year (for a total of three)
 - Supplies inventory is depleted, less for kids
- And, we have a steadily dropping population so our resulting budget actually shrinks, as do our options to serve

It is imperative that you support and pass adequate school funding to provide the Promise of Oregon.

That level is above \$7,875 billion.

Thank you for your support.

April 10, 2015
Promise of Oregon?

Questions?

End of Report

April 10, 2015
Promise of Oregon?

The proposed funding at the 7.25 billion dollar level for the 2015-17 funding biennium will leave La Grande School District with a shortfall of \$117 per student for the 2015-16 school year from current funding levels. The additional \$323,000 in total formula state school fund grant is insufficient to cover the increased student count and the addition of full day kindergarten. What has happened through this legislative process is that the legislature has provided inadequate funding support necessary to meet the expected rollup costs of full day kindergarten and other programs. Incidentally, my calculations are based on a 49%/51% split for the 2015-17 biennium, that is how La Grande School District is budgeting for the biennium, because the 50/50 split formula recommended by the Legislature is a political gimmick and a guaranteed train wreck for the 2016-17 budget year, because it will not provide for rollup costs in the second year of the biennium.

The State expectation that the 7.2 billion funding level is adequate to support adding full day kindergarten and expanding vocational opportunities for high school students to get them career ready, as stated by the Governor's 40-40-20 goal simply does not work.

One of two things must happen: the Oregon Legislature must increase funding for K-12 public schools to sustain these higher expectations or these higher expectations need to be eliminated. We cannot do both simultaneously. Over the past ten years k-12 public education has gone from 44% of the state general budget to 39% today, while other state allotments have increased. There has been a decade of disinvestment in Oregon Public Education and it shows in metrics like low graduation rates when compared to other states.

Oregon is not in a crises. The economy is improving. Revenues have increased, and spending on other important state services is proposed to increase in turn. Yet despite the voiced support for schools. Our state's investment in education continues to lag behind other increases. It is unacceptable that, in a time of economic growth, the proposed budget may force some schools to cut services to our students yet again. It is long over due to make the youth of Oregon and their future the number one priority in Oregon.

Larry Glaze
La Grande

Industrial Lands: Riley J. Hill
Retain Local Business: Ken Hart
Career Technical Education: Dirk DeBoer
Expanded Ag/Traded Sector: Bill Johnson
Utilization of Natural Resources: Andrew Bentz

April 3, 2015

Joint Committee on Ways & Means
Subcommittee on Education

RE: HB 5024, The Community Agenda

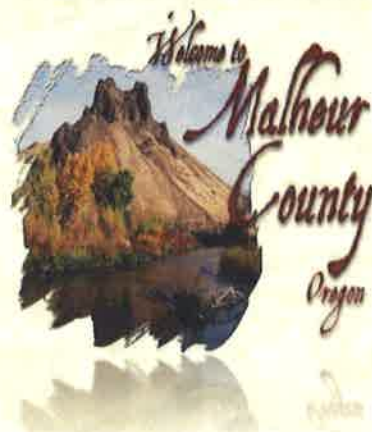
Dear Co-chair Komp, Co-chair Monroe, and Committee Members,

Following months of backyard discussions starting in 2011, a dedicated group of local business leaders launched "Malheur County: From Poverty to Prosperity" (MP2P). They were tired of hearing that Malheur County is "the poorest, most disadvantaged county in Oregon." Together they determined the county remains poverty stricken for five reasons:

1. We had not trained our workforce to current industry standards to take advantage of current available, living wage jobs.
2. We need a trained workforce to retain and/or expand local businesses.
3. To attract new industry we must have industrial lands and infrastructure.
4. We need to develop our abundant natural resources.
5. We need to develop agricultural leadership to expand our agricultural traded sector.

MP2P, a grassroots initiative was developed to lift this remote, rural Oregon county from severe economic distress. A community business leader was selected to chair each part of the plan and action committees were formed. Partners include business and industry, private sector participants, Malheur Education Service District (ESD), Malheur County Board of Commissioners, school districts, Treasure Valley Community College (TVCC), Oregon Department of Education, Malheur Juvenile Department, nonprofits, civic and social service organizations.

To establish a common agenda, working groups were organized to identify and prioritize high-impact levers for change. It was agreed the implementation of a Career Technical Education program was imperative to the success of MP2P. MP2P's CTE committee members have met weekly over the past two years. We work closely with local school districts, Malheur Education Service District, TVCC, community partners, and the Oregon Department of Education, which has provided funding through competitive grants (STEM, Youth Development Council, and Regional Achievement Collaborative) to develop programs that will build on the successes to date and strengthen outcome-based strategies for serving Opportunity and Priority Youth.



P.O Box 182
Ontario, OR 97914

**MALHEUR COUNTY:
POVERTY TO PROSPERITY**

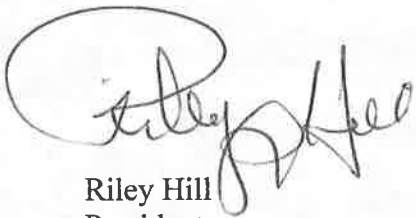
A grassroots plan to raise up Oregon's most poverty stricken county.

Serving at-risk and high-risk youth is a priority for MP2P partners. The CTE program was launched in school year 2013-14 with 20 high school students. In our second year we are now serving 94 students. MP2P's CTE program offers disadvantaged youth promising pathways to solid employment and earning capacity. Our program is intentionally designed to recruit Malheur County youth who may be identified as the "Bottom 20 of the Middle 40" in Oregon's 40-40-20 Plan (underserved students, i.e. low income/high poverty, Hispanic, English Language Learners).

We are proud of our success. However, it has been very, very difficult to organize this effort. Nobody here has done this before. At every civic governmental level we have struggled to understand the process and mechanisms for financial support. To date, we have been very dependent on creative funding from our schools, ESD and TVCC. The handful of outside grants we have received have been critical in helping us maintain our momentum.

We write to support the Governor's proposal of a Community Leverage Fund and a Center for Community Innovation. Our initiatives have not aligned well with Salem-driven priorities, and so we have been repeatedly overlooked by traditional funding streams. The Governor's proposal would enable local leadership, working with the Center for Community Innovation, to deliver solutions to the problems which we face here, in our community.

We are not alone. Throughout Oregon, rural communities struggle to empower local leadership with the resources they need to fix the problems in their communities. We hope we serve as an example of the exciting local initiatives that will result from funding of The Community Agenda.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Riley Hill", is written over a large, faint circular stamp or watermark.

Riley Hill
President
Malheur County: Poverty to Prosperity

NEW DAY ENTERPRISES, INC.

1502 Washington Avenue
P. O. Box 3296
La Grande, Oregon 97850
(541) 963-2348
FAX 962-7230

Residential Programs
(541) 963-9081
Vocational Programs
(541) 963-5077



April 10, 2015

Honored members of the House and Senate:

I'm Zee Koza and I'm here to tell you a story.

New Day Enterprises is a private, nonprofit, community mental health facility in La Grande that serves adults with developmental disabilities.

When talking about the folks we serve in our community, I'd like to remind you of the words of my Grandma's favorite hymn.

"All God's children sing in the choir.
Some sing lower and some sing higher
Some sing loud on the telephone wire
And some just clap their hands."

Most of my folks can't sing and many can't even clap their hands. They can't speak to you of their life, their needs or their dreams. That's why I am here.

Places like New Day Enterprises are specialists at providing jobs and training to folks whom most others would consider unemployable. It also means that we provide homes to people who can't live with their families or on their own.

New Day Enterprises has become a unique combination of surrogate family and professional care givers.

It all means that we have given our sacred promise to care for these folks for the rest of their lives. We specialize in doing what most people assure us cannot be done.

Community mental health facilities, like New Day Enterprises, evolved because there are people with complex developmental disabilities living in our communities. As much as they would like to keep these beloved folks within the home, families are not able to provide three, 8 hour shifts of people and enough people always available to do two person physical transfers to care for their loved ones.

Thankfully, institutions like Fairview, which warehoused people with disabilities, were closed about twelve years ago.

At that time, the State of Oregon made an agreement with local non-profits to provide financing for the care of the great folks and entrusted that care of places like New Day. The trust was supposed to go both ways.

The State, with savings realized from closing Fairview and other institutions, promised we would receive ongoing support and adequate funding to care for these individuals within a community setting. That support has dwindled.

I am asking, on behalf of the very vulnerable people I support for the legislature to add to the current budget to stabilize the Developmental Disability system.

Because we are not a State run facility, the rates we pay our staff are close to minimum wage. Many of my staff people have to take two jobs, just to survive. Some are on food stamp to supplement their wages.

We are asking our employees to care for the happiness, health, safety and the very lives of very complex and needy individuals. We are straining our agency budgets to do so.

We are having difficulty finding employees who are being asked to do so very much and being paid so very little.

Many who live and spend time at New Day require an enhanced level of care and support. This can be due to physical impairments, dual diagnoses, severity of the disability, multiple diagnoses, mental health conditions and/or aging issues.

Most of our folks need specialized assistance for bathing, toileting, medication administration, eating, ambulation and other day-to-day functions.

We also offer nursing and trained staffing services to support our clients who need tube feeding, catheterization, oxygen therapy, post-surgical care, congestive heart failure supports, and cancer care.

It goes without saying that we are the ones who offer our final, sacred gift of care and compassion as our folks face end of life issues.

Continuing to inadequately fund DD services puts the health and safety of Oregonians with Developmental Disability at risk.

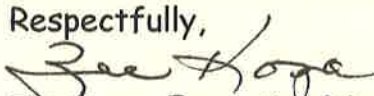
We are at the breaking point and are now having to come to the Ways and Means Committee to beg for adequate supports to care for the most vulnerable and needy among us.

Community Facilities, like New Day, believe in one simple thing. We believe that we are to be our brother's keeper...and our sister's keeper and our neighbor's keeper.

We are not big, loud or flashy. We don't have dollars to lobby for our folks with disabilities. We aren't the ones with huge campaigns, TV ads, songs or slogans. Sometimes, we have a hard time being heard in the crowd.

We are asking you to stop and listen to the quiet voices of our fellow citizens with disabilities as they must beg the legislature for adequate services and for adequate staffing to care for their needs. Please use your elected office and your power to join us and be your brother's keeper too.

Respectfully,


Zee Koza, Executive Director



Community programs that serve individuals with developmental, intellectual or other disabilities throughout Oregon are struggling to recruit and retain staff. Oregonians with disabilities who are supported by these programs are suffering due to the lack of enduring support.

What's the problem?

Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) assist individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities to live and work in their communities. DSP duties range from helping people with basic yet very personal health and daily supports like bathing and housekeeping, to caring for people with complex medical issues. ***They are the critical element of care for those who need their assistance to live a full inclusive life - yet many are forced to choose jobs with higher pay to support themselves and their families.*** The current shortage of DSPs can only limit Oregon's ability to provide people with inclusive community lives and comply with federal policy expectations.

VALUE the **WORK.**
RAISE the **WAGE.**



There are an estimated 14,000 DSPs who provide essential care, services and support for over 6,000 individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities (IDD) in comprehensive services in Oregon.

How can you help?

Support wage parity with other employment options for DSPs by approving a \$38.6M appropriation to DHS for a direct care wage increase for 2015-17. Recognize and reward the specialized work of these dedicated professionals. It's an essential service and a big problem in need of an immediate solution. ***We need your help.*** If we don't take steps to address the staffing shortage now, the problem will only get bigger in years to come.

Additional Relevant Facts:

According to the 2013 Oregon Workforce Report by the University of Oregon Labor Education and Research Center, 29,811 Oregonians who work in the Social Service industry, including Direct Support Professionals, received \$266 million dollars in public assistance to make up for the gap in wages.



(503) 585-3337 | oregonrehabilitation.org



oregoniddcoalition.org



CPAO

Community Provider Association of Oregon

(503) 228-4401 | mycpao.org



2301 Cove Avenue La Grande, OR 97850

(541) 962-8800

Fax (541) 963-5272

TTY Dial 711

Center for Human Development, Inc.

Joint Ways and Means Committee La Grande Community Hearing April 10, 2015

To: Co-Chairs Senator Devlin and Representative Buckley, and members of the Committee:

My name is Carrie Brogoitti and I am the public health administrator at the Center for Human Development in Union County. Our organization serves as the local public health authority and provides public health services on behalf of the County. I am writing in support of additional investments in public health to ensure that all women in Oregon have access to reproductive health services; that there is capacity in our state to meet the rising tide of reportable disease; and to ensure that we continue to prevent the major drivers of death and disease in Oregon.

I would like to share the work we are doing in Union County to improve health outcomes for our constituents.

The Center for Human Development plays a vital role in making sure Union County residents are able to obtain the **services they need to plan the timing and spacing of their pregnancies, prevent reproductive cancers, and prevent and stop the spread of sexually transmitted diseases**. Local health departments like ours are an essential component in assuring health care access, particularly in rural communities. Because our community is small and there are a limited number of health care providers, there is a risk that clients will forego care if they are uncomfortable seeking "sensitive" services at their usual provider, or if they know someone that works at a provider's office. This is particularly true for younger clients, and when they do not obtain needed services their risk for teen pregnancy and serious health issues resulting from untreated sexually transmitted infections increases. **Our clients need health departments as an option for these services and funding is needed to make these services available.**

Communicable disease surveillance and investigation is a foundational public health capability, and the Center for Human Development regularly works with local partners to **prevent and respond to communicable disease outbreaks**. In addition to our daily work of responding to communicable disease reports and assuring proper investigation and treatment, we are working with partners like the county emergency manager and our local hospital to plan and practice how we respond to outbreaks like Measles, Ebola, and Whooping Cough that have occurred in Oregon and beyond over the past few years. We also work with schools to help them meet school exemption requirements related to vaccines. By helping make sure children attending school are vaccinated we are also reducing the spread of disease and increasing community immunity. We are working hard to protect our citizens by keeping these diseases out of our community with quick investigations and minimizing the spread of disease if a case is reported. Our community relies solely on State Support for Public Health to survey and investigate communicable diseases. The only way we are able to maintain adequate staffing is to have our communicable disease nurse work in multiple program areas. This structure is barely adequate for the day-to-day functions of the communicable disease program, but it poses significant challenges when we have an outbreak of any kind, as it is difficult

for the Communicable Disease nurse to drop their other duties for days and weeks at a time.
Additional investment in communicable disease is needed to protect the public's safety.

As a leader in cost-saving preventative work for our community, the Center for Human Development is continually engaging in work with partners to improve the lifelong well being of our population. The Center for Human Development is an active member of the Safe Communities Coalition which is **working to prevent underage alcohol, tobacco and drug use in Union County, as well as high risk drinking in young adults.** Smokeless tobacco use among youth in our community is much higher than the rest of the state, so the Coalition is currently working to support policy changes that create environments that make it easier for youth to make healthy choices related to alcohol and tobacco use. **Additional investment in prevention activities is needed to help youth make choices that improve lifelong health.**

The Center for Human Development is working to **reduce the burden of chronic disease through a number of Union County-based prevention projects.** We are active participants in the U.C. Fit Kids Coalition, which is working to address childhood obesity and lifelong chronic disease in Union County. The Coalition works closely with schools and community organizations to create changes in schools and the community that increase children's access to healthy food and physical activity. We are also working with the Union County Advisory Committee for the Eastern Oregon Coordinated Care Organization on a project aimed at reducing low birth weight. By working to intervene as early as possible, before women get pregnant, we will reduce lifelong health issues, including chronic disease, for Union County residents and reduce health care costs for pregnancy and childbirth. **Additional funding to support these community-based prevention activities would allow us to do even more to prevent the impact of chronic disease in Union County.**

Thank you for allowing me to share the work we do at the Union County Center for Human Development, and I urge you to support the funding of this important public health work.

Thank you,

Carrie Brogoitti, MPH
Public Health Administrator

TREASURE VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

April 10, 2015

To: Oregon Legislature Ways and Means Education Sub-Committee

From: TVCC President Dana Young 

Treasure Valley Community College welcomes the opportunity to engage in the dialogue that will shape the development of and advocacy for the State of Oregon's 2015-17 budget for higher education. We understand and appreciate the challenges at the State level in providing equitable and appropriate funding, we ask that you continue to see community colleges as a key part of economic recovery for the State of Oregon.

With an equity lens and an open-door policy, TVCC is continually focused on serving the unique needs of our student population. TVCC is located in Malheur County, one of the poorest, most disadvantaged counties in the state. Malheur County's poverty rate is currently at 22.6% compared to Oregon's 14.8%. With a high school graduation rate averaging around 70% in our county, TVCC is also challenged to recruit many underserved and first-generation students who require and deserve additional support services to help them succeed. We see first-hand the impact and opportunities students receive through education and we are committed to providing an open-door opportunity in our community, but that approach necessarily brings a different perspective to the cost-benefit analysis applied to many business decisions.

Given our location on the border near Idaho which is a semester school state, and our experience helping students transfer to myriad colleges and schools across the nation, we also ask for a renewed look at the quarter to semester conversion discussion. Federal financial aid rules appear to give preference to semester system program by only allowing two terms of low academic progress. In the past, federal financial aid gave students three terms to improve their grades before financial aid was revoked. At TVCC, we've seen this new policy affect at-risk students at the very time an intervention may begin to work. The impact of this change – as well as the students' resulting inability to access loans to pay for schooling – clearly has a dramatic impact on enrollment and access for low-income students.

We are committed to efficiency and being good stewards of public resources, but as you know a review of services and needs rarely fits into a spreadsheet. We are especially appreciative the Oregon Investment Board and the Higher Education Coordinating Commission have realized the need and the ability for Colleges to provide specific measures for review and we are grateful for your willingness to consider the comprehensive needs of community college students.

We know you have so much to balance, but we commit to you that investing in community colleges is an investment in the state's economy. It is an investment in improving communities, families and student's lives. We also commit to you that we are good stewards of these dollars and that by helping keep higher education affordable, you will keep the doors open for opportunity in Oregon for generations to come.

To: Ways and Means Budget Committee
State of Oregon

From: Robin L. Gerber
Union County 4-H (Leaders) Association President
62916 Fruitdale Lane
La Grande, Oregon 97850

April 10, 2015

Dear Committee Members:

This letter comes to you in support of SB 657, investing \$16 million to strengthen and continue OSU programs in our state. . Most other State agencies spend dollars outside of our state for many products and services, and have wasteful spending habits. OSU dollars directly support our Oregon economy and way of life. This is one of the only State Budget areas where the tax payers of Oregon not only get their money's worth, but actually multiply the allocated funds for the benefit of Oregon residents and businesses.

A prime example of this is the 4-H program in Union County: two full time OSU funded staff, multiplies to more than 80 adult volunteers, which multiplies to more than 350 youth being directly served. Educational programs, health and nutrition, life skills development, leadership training and opportunities, career guidance and preparation, youth and family crisis intervention, counseling, work experience, and community service activities...All of this directly affects other members of our community in many positive ways. The funding of these two positions also allows for the support of the Union County 4-H (Leaders) Association and the Blue Mountain 4-H Center Board, which bring additional dollars and services to our area. Having the OSU Extension staff for 4-H opens the door to other grants and donations to programs in our area...such as the Clayton Fox Endowment, Wildhorse Grants, and NRA grants. None of this would be possible without 4-H services through our Local OSU Extension staff. The more we can invest in this system, the greater the rewards for our state.

I have been a 4-H Leader for more than twenty years. I would not have been able to serve youth without the OSU Extension Service, it has enabled me to touch hundreds of lives.

Please support and help to advance the benefits of OSU services to the State of Oregon by passing SB 657. This is a wise and fiscally sound decision.

Thank you,



Robin L. Gerber

Dear Members of the Joint Ways and Means Committee,

I'm going to be as honest with you as I can be; I had a template to write about my support of House Bill 2721, but I felt a frank story would better represent my experience and admiration of rural Farm to School. So, why am I sending a letter in support of at 10:30pm the night before the bill's hearing, with cattle mooing in the distance beyond my house? Besides whatever lacking I may have in time management skills, it speaks to the nature of Farm to School in rural areas. The people who coordinate these efforts, such as myself, or who volunteer to support these efforts, like the passionate parents I work with constantly, often scrape to find the time needed to maintain successful Farm to School programming. We do it on our lunch breaks, we write grants after midnight, we juggle three jobs and raising a family, we organize lessons and outreach activities between calving seasons. I know this is true in Farm to School efforts throughout the country, but I hope I can speak specifically to the rural Eastern Oregon iteration of this effort. Despite these obstacles, we remain strong in championing rural Farm to School. We are tenacious and passionate about the importance of these efforts in rural Oregon and the necessity of connecting rural children to Oregon farmers and food.

At North Powder Charter School, where our beloved Vicky Brown spearheaded an ardent Farm to School movement, we have been fortunate to receive Farm to School grants that support our program. These grants have funded not only the purchase of local products for our cafeteria, but have also funded much-needed school garden supplies and educational opportunities for our rural youth. When I first came to North Powder as a FoodCorps service member, I was astonished at the lack of resources available to Farm to School programming – things that are, almost ironically, more present in urban areas. These obstacles – such as rural distribution issues, rural poverty, limited fresh food access – seemed almost insurmountable. It was my experience working with Vicky, and other Farm to School advocates from varying backgrounds, which showed me how much human and social capital is necessary to achieve Farm to School goals in rural areas. As one brief example, Vicky would purchase fruit from a regional orchard two hours away; she would drive her personal vehicle, pick up enough fruit to meet the needs of North Powder and other small rural towns, and deliver the fruit to these rural cafeterias – all of this effort in order to facilitate that connection between children and their food. One of our Cattlewomen's Association members, who provides classroom education during I Heart Beef Month in February, finds the time to do this between ranch chores and raising five children. The best part? Everyone does it with a smile – no matter how hard it gets, no matter how stretched we are. In all honesty, there is no other way to do it.

Some may think that being in a rural area, surrounded by agriculture, that Farm to School is pretty much a day-to-day occurrence. But the reality is, with limited distribution options and limited markets for rural farmers, local food often cannot make it to the tables or lunch trays of rural citizens. Oregon Department of Education's Farm to School program and grant not only help this effort, but make it feasible in an area of limited economic options and limited resources. Without this grant, we would still have the fervor and the willingness to provide the education and opportunities to connect rural children with the people that grow their food, but far less opportunity to provide local food to local schoolchildren. *With* these grants, with the incredible support of people at ODE and legislators like you – with this support we have the ability to *strengthen* our program, to move toward a horizon where rural Farm to School efforts are not only a common occurrence, but a sustainable one.

ODE's Farm to School program is strengthening Oregon's rural economies; the program allows farmers to access new markets and also allows rural children to make deep and lasting connections to the food that grows around them. Parallel to this economic benefit is the strengthening of rural communities – connections are made across generations, farming methods, and food preferences. These connections

help create a more resilient and proud rural Oregon, and they help our youth become invested in the places from which they come.

I appreciate your time and I respect that many of you will know what it is to be a rural Oregon resident. My hope is that, in so few words, I've been able to paint a picture on behalf the many youth and adults I work with every day – a picture of the enormous heart of rural Oregon Farm to School. Please help us pass House Bill 2721.

With many thanks,

Shannon Gray

Farm to School Coordinator
FoodCorps Program Supervisor
North Powder Charter School
333 G St.
North Powder, OR 97867
(541) 380-1652

Derrin (Dag) Robinson, CRA; CEA
Harney County Clerk

Tammy Johnston
Chief Deputy



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK

450 N. Buena Vista Ave, #14
Burns, OR 97720
541.573.6641
www.co.harney.or.us

April 10, 2015
Before the Joint Ways and Means Committee
LaGrande, Oregon

Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today, here in LaGrande. Thank you for making this effort to reach out to communities in Eastern Oregon. I come before you today wearing two hats; the first one, as a volunteer for the Oregon State University Extension Service 4-H Program in Harney County. My wife Rachael and I are here this weekend chaperoning the program's Eastern Oregon Youth Leadership Retreat, here on the EOU campus. This is one of many programs sponsored by the OSU Extension Service, for our youth. We also volunteer for the annual 4-H youth camp, held each year for Harney and Grant County youth, at the beautiful Lake Creek Youth Camp located in Logan Valley of the Malheur National forest. I serve as volunteer Assistant Camp Director there each year, assisting the Camp Director (Shana Withee, Harney County Extension Agent) and other OSU staff, oversee the camp. These two programs alone provide valuable opportunities for our youth to obtain lifelong leadership skills and abilities. Having been volunteers for these and other programs, I have witnessed firsthand the growth of leadership potential of these youth as they participate in these wonderful programs, to the extent that just this week, one of our local 4-H'ers was accepted to Harvard University! What an honor and an accomplishment!

I ask that you support the requested \$16 million dollars in funding of the Oregon State University Statewide programs this biennium. This funding allows these and other programs to effect the lives of Oregon's youth in many positive ways.



Secondly, I come to you as Harney County Clerk, and ask that you support the funding in the Secretary of State's budget for implementation of HB 2177, the new motor voter bill. As you know, counties across Oregon are looking to save valuable dollars in every arena, so approval of the funding for counties to implement the Motor Voter bill is critical to us.

Thank you again, for providing the opportunity for those of us here in Eastern Oregon to share our concerns with you today.

Sincerely,

Derrin (Dag) Robinson, C.R.A; C.E.A
Harney County Clerk
Harney County 4-H Volunteer

April 10, 2015

To the honorable members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee:

My name is Thomas Beechinor and I am a rancher and forest manager with property in Umatilla County. I am writing today in support of SB 657.

I fully support the Oregon State Extension service and urge the members of the Ways and Means Committee to support SB 657 which provides an investment of \$16 million to strengthen both the natural resource programs as well as the human resource programs administered by OSU.

My family has been farming and ranching in Oregon since 1860. Our operation has benefited greatly over the years from the work OSU extension has done to provide the latest research information in a manner that is useful to us. Our forests are healthier, more fire resistant and better able to provide clean water and enhanced wildlife habitat due to the our relationship with our local forestry extension personnel. In addition, our livestock operation is much more economically viable as a result of our participation in extension sponsored feeding futurities and livestock health clinics.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide this input. I understand the difficult funding choices that you are asked to make. From my perspective, support of OSU extension is extremely vital. Please support SB657 and by doing so you will insure that the OSU's important education and research will continue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas Beechinor". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "T" and "B".

Thomas Beechinor

Ways & Means Chairmen, Committee members thank you for this opportunity to speak.

My name is Deidre Schreiber I am 13 years old and live in the small, rural town of Enterprise in Wallowa County. I am here in support of the \$16 million investment in the OSU Statewide. My family and I are thankful for the OSU Extension Service programs. Our ranch has benefitted from the OSU Extension Service's advice and workshops which related to ag research and practices.

I have been involved in the traditional 4-H program for 5 years. However, I had my first 4-H experience was at only 6 days old going to the Tri-County 4-H camp, so I have literally been involved all my life! I would particularly like to highlight my beef project where I have learned the most. Without the OSU Extension's 4-H program I would never have the opportunities to grow my herd. I currently have 5 cows, 3 calves, and have sold 2 yearling bulls. My future plans are to become a reputable seed stock and bull producer. Extension has provided me with unlimited opportunities to do so.

I'm here at Eastern Oregon University with 65 other youth this weekend, where we are participating in the Eastern Oregon 4-H Leadership Retreat. This program is an outstanding leadership program that is planned and led by older youth. Planning and attending this leadership event teaches the valuable skills we will use the rest of our lives. These programs are made possible by the constant support of 4-H and OSU Extension Service.

I am so lucky to have 4-H as a core part of my life. I couldn't have acquired these skills anywhere else. I ask for your support of the \$16 million dollar investment for the OSU Statewides. Thank You!

The Community Agenda:

Supporting Communities to Reach Our 40-40-20 Goal

Oregon's 40-40-20 Goal states that by 2025, all Oregon students will complete high school, with 40% going on to earn a bachelor's degree or higher and another 40% earning an associate's degree or credential of economic value. The Goal is specifically related to the levels of educational attainment for students, but has become shorthand for the type of workforce and conditions necessary to drive a strong economy and build prosperity for all. Oregon's 10-year budget identifies outcomes in health, early learning, education, workforce and economic development. These key state outcomes – increasing numbers of healthy children, ready for kindergarten, reading by 3rd grade, completing high school, earning degrees & certificates, and engaging in meaningful, family-wage work – represent the conditions necessary to achieve 40-40-20, as well as its ultimate promise. However, concentrations of poverty – particularly in rural Oregon – serve as a significant barrier to the kinds of improvements necessary to reach our 40-40-20 goal.

Over the past four years, the Governor and Legislature have developed community-based partnerships that are poised to engage and integrate public, private and civic sectors across silos in robust ways. These regional efforts in health (Coordinated Care Organizations), early education (Early Learning Hubs), education (Regional Achievement Collaboratives), workforce (Workforce Investment Boards) and economic development (Regional Solutions Advisory Committees) are built to expand our capacity to address complex problems and take action on the ground to improve outcomes and reduce disparities.

Successful implementation of these new and innovative models requires both sufficient local capacity and a state infrastructure that works for communities. When provided with appropriate levels of support, these community-based systems form a powerful network through which to address poverty and its impacts on families and communities. To ensure all of Oregon's communities are positioned to reach the 40-40-20 Goal, the Governor's budget includes the Center for Community Innovation and a Community Leverage Fund.

Center for Community Innovation

To ensure that the communities and our state agencies have access to best practices, technical assistance and support for continuous improvement, the Governor proposes the creation of the Center for Community Innovation. This small unit within the HECC would:

- leverage and connect state resources with private, philanthropic and civic resources
- build partnerships between communities and state agencies and investments, such as social services, affordable housing, community corrections and childcare
- help good ideas travel faster, disseminating what works through peer networks and learning collaboratives
- work to remove barriers to transformation at the state level
- engage diverse communities and stakeholders in the work of transformation
- provide a state backbone for technical assistance, support and resources;
- connect regions to state data and analytic capacity

The staff of the Center for Community Innovation includes a Director, two Program/Policy Managers, a Grants Manager and an Administrative Assistant. In addition, policy-to-practice experts would serve on rotation from other agencies, such as Oregon Department of Education, Oregon Employment Department, Oregon Health Authority, Department of Health & Human Services and Housing & Community Services.

Community Leverage Fund

To accelerate on-the-ground action and leverage public, private and civic resources, the Governor's Budget includes a \$25 million investment in a Community Leverage Fund. A minimum of \$2 million will be set aside for each of the eleven economic development regions of the state, regardless of size, to be distributed to a city or county government, school district, post-secondary institution, or nongovernmental entity) partnering with a CCO, early learning hub, regional achievement collaborative, workforce investment board, or regional solutions advisory committee. The Community Leverage Fund will allow regions to launch projects that address multiple outcomes in education, health, early learning, workforce, economic and community development, to serve those communities with the most significant concentrations of poverty.

To be eligible for the funds, regions would (1) designate a lead collaborative and an organization to receive the funds (county or city government, nonprofit organization, tribe, school district, ESD or post-secondary institution) and (2) submit an investment plan to complete projects that demonstrates the following criteria:

- A proven record of collaboration within the community and/or region, and participation from at least two established community-based systems (CCO, Early Learning Hub, Regional Achievement Collaborative, Workforce Investment Board, or Regional Solutions Advisory Committee).
- A commitment to securing leveraged resources from federal, local, philanthropic, civic or business sources.
- An actionable on-the-ground plan, driven by data and promising practices, for improving two or more key state outcomes, such as healthy birth weight, family stability, kindergarten readiness, 3rd grade reading proficiency, high school graduation, degrees and certificates, increased wages or decreased unemployment, among a geographic area or racial/ethnic community with high concentrations of poverty.
- A commitment to engaging a diverse set of partners, culturally appropriate strategies, and to using data to focus efforts on improving outcomes for racial/ethnic minorities, children & families in poverty.
- A strategy for engaging a broad set of leaders and interests in the community to build capacity and ensure sustainability.
- A plan for measuring success and commitment to engage in a statewide learning network

The Center for Community Innovation would provide technical assistance to support regions in developing a strong scope of work and project plan.

Taking Action: Example Collaborative Projects

- In a rural, high-poverty county, education, workforce and industry partners collaborate to deliver career & technical education, internships, apprenticeships and job opportunities to increase the number of graduates with certificates, degrees & family-wage employment.
- A school district, CCO, nonprofits and county government partner to launch a school-based health center in a high-poverty school to serve as a central location for young children and their families to access developmental screenings, health and mental health services, and parent education.

MALHEUR COUNTY: POVERTY TO PROSPERITY

A grassroots plan to raise up Oregon's most poverty- stricken county.

**An Economic Recovery Plan
2013-2018**

v. 070114



MALHEUR COUNTY: POVERTY TO PROSPERITY

Executive Summary

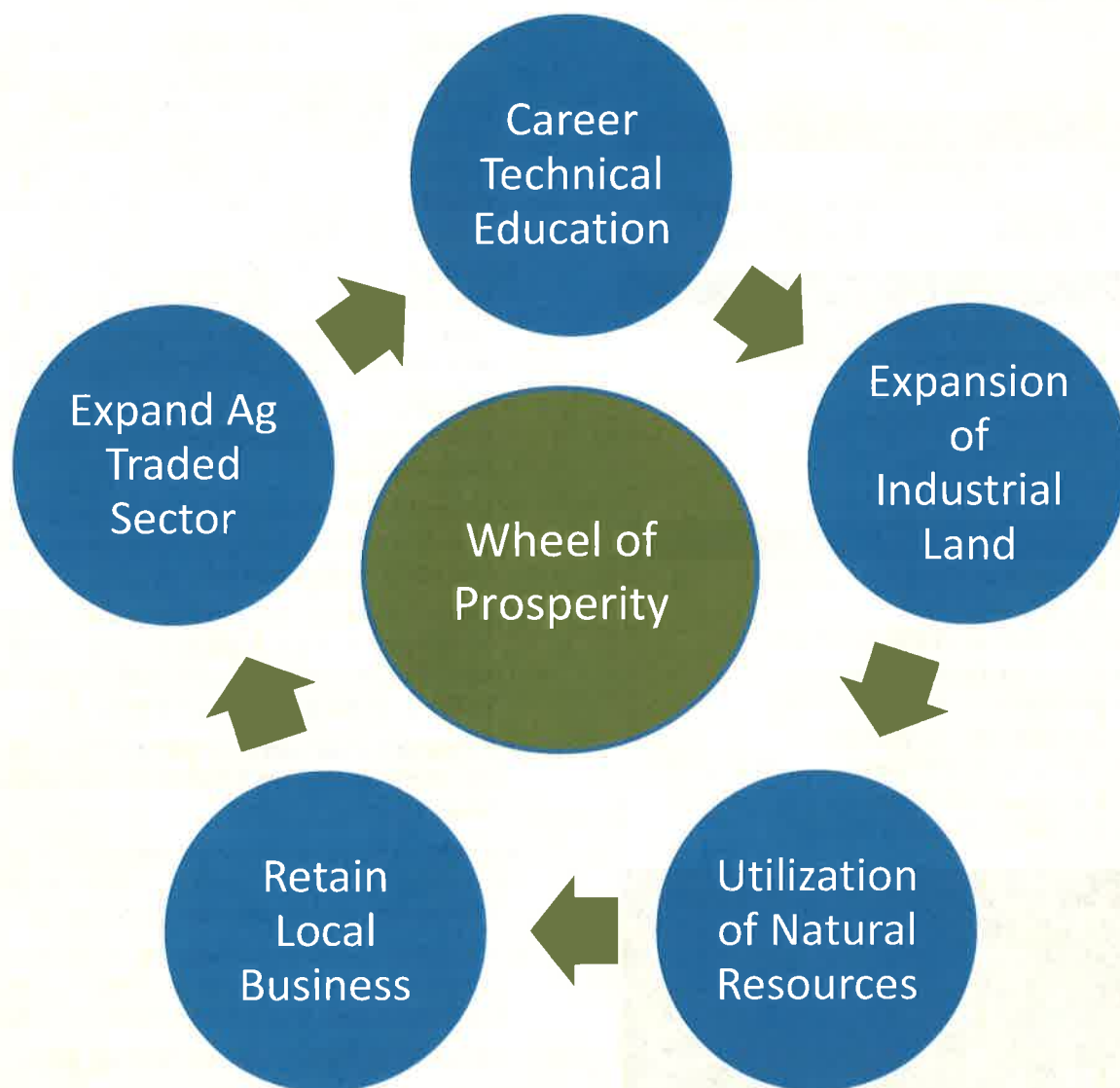
Historically, Malheur County is by far the poorest, most disadvantaged county in the state. Malheur County's poverty rate is currently at 22.6% compared to Oregon's 14.8%. This poverty results in a corresponding higher rate of unwed pregnant teens (teen pregnancy rate of 13.6; Oregon is 10.1%), high contact with the law enforcement, court and jail/prison systems, and a loss of the value these young men and women could add to Oregon's social and economic base. One of the causes of poverty is our failure to train our children for jobs readily available in our community, and in not using or developing resources that we have in abundance within Malheur County. This failure can be partially blamed on lack of investment in our schools, and our regulations/laws that are applied as a global policy without consideration for the environmental differences and potential land use across Oregon. The lack of trained 18 year olds is the result of no large scale technical training, along with the lack of opportunity of having a living wage job available in their future, and the liability costs to train 16-18 year olds.

Malheur County is ready for change. In the fall of 2011 separate groups of business people began to meet and discuss the past and future of Malheur County. One group focused on the many industrial business visitors who come to Malheur County but rarely stay because of the lack of properly zoned industrial land. Another focused on the lack of Career Technical Education (CTE) training offered in our school systems. Another group began to identify business opportunities in retention and better utilization of natural resources. A critical connection was made between these groups. They believed the solution for business growth rested within the cooperative and collaborative partnership between business and education leaders.

A dedicated group of local business people began a movement entitled "Malheur County: From Poverty to Prosperity." They worked closely with Oregon State Representative Cliff Bentz to bring to fruition his strategic five point economic development plan for Malheur County. A community business leader was selected to chair each part of the plan and action committees were formed. The plan consists of: 1) Building a Career Technical Education School, 2) Expansion of Industrial Land, 3) Utilization of Natural Resources, 4) Retention of Local Business, and 5) Expand Ag Traded Sector.



MALHEUR COUNTY WHEEL OF PROSPERITY



Changing Course

VISION

Economic growth in Malheur County will be achieved through quality education, better use of available resources, and coordination of the efforts of business, schools and government.

GOALS

- Substantially reduce poverty
- Improve the lives and futures of our young people
- Build and maintain a vibrant Eastern Oregon

ACTIONS

- Malheur County Career Technical Education Center with Pilot Program beginning fall 2013
- Expansion of industrial land
- Better utilization of natural resources
- Retain local businesses
- Expand our ag traded sector

OUTCOMES

- Increase in skilled workforce
- Increase in living wage jobs
- Reduction in SNAP and TANF caseloads
- Increase high school graduation rates
- Increase per capita income.
- Business and industry job growth
- Increase leadership: youth succession plan
- Reduction in juvenile delinquency
- Stronger economy with more taxpayers



STRATEGIES

- Align Malheur County education system with Oregon's vision for prosperity (P-20).
- Develop a CTE Center, built to provide state of the art training for youth to be workforce ready in multiple industry disciplines; achieved through the existing partnership of Treasure Valley Community College, Malheur Education Service District, and the three largest school districts, Ontario, Nyssa and Vale, with support from local business and industry.
- Advocate to the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development to take appropriate steps in rule-making and support legislation for acquisition of additional industrial land in Malheur County.
- Make Malheur County a nationwide target for industrial development by designating three 1,000 acre parcels of industrial land.
- Streamline the mining permit process to decrease the time delays that hinder our participation in the world rare earth mineral market.
- Create a locally grown workforce that is trained and ready to work. Build Malheur County's reservoir of service technicians and individuals to support Treasure Valley business and industry needs.
- Create new customers for existing businesses by successful interaction between the five action committee areas.
- Establish three advanced programs at Treasure Valley Community College: Process Automation, Hydraulics & Pneumatics, and Manufacturing Processes.
- Establish "Leadership Oregon Ag" (an investment in mid-career ag industry leaders) by collaborative efforts of local Ag Leaders and OSU School of Agriculture.
- Establish irrigation upgrade working group.
- Pursue better rail transportation solutions for agricultural product in the Treasure Valley.

How Bad Is It?

Malheur County's economic base was once rooted in agriculture. Over time, federal policies shifted in favor of species protection and fire loss management. As a result, cattle grazing on public lands have drastically decreased despite the fact that 94 percent of the County's land mass is classified as rangeland.

Per Capita Income (US Census 2012) for Malheur County is \$16,703 while the State of Oregon is \$26,561 and the US as a whole is \$27,915. Currently, 22.6 percent of all persons (25.2 percent of all children) live at or below 100 percent of the federal poverty index. The local economy is precarious: public employees constitute the largest single class of workers. The local unemployment rate of 10.1 percent is significantly elevated over national rates of 8.3 percent.

Eastern Oregon is currently in survival mode. There are 3,141 counties or equivalents in the United States. Malheur County was doing well 30 years ago, ranked at 1,648 in per capita personal income. Now we rank as one of the poorest counties in the country at 2,974.

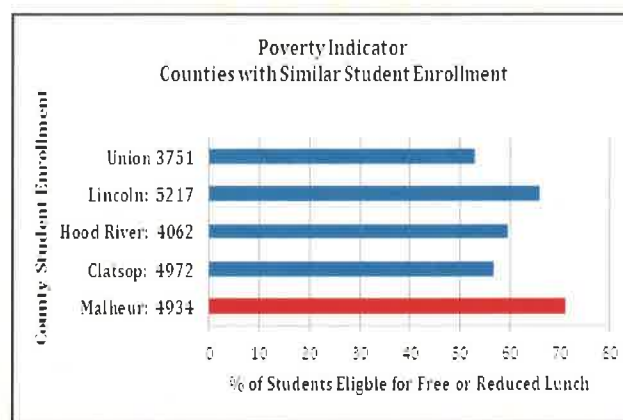
The Oregon Progress Board (2009) reports that among Oregon counties, Malheur County, ranks dead-last on per capita income, high school completion, overall poverty, juvenile arrest rates and recidivism. Forty percent of all arrests (36% female, 60% male) made in Malheur County are juveniles.

If you compare Malheur County indicators to our student ethnicity, we are not equipping our Hispanic youth for success. Hispanic student population is growing; Nyssa and Ontario are over 60%. We need to bring hope to all our students. They are our opportunity to break the cycle of poverty in Malheur County. A local juvenile law enforcement official cites that the best prevention of youth joining a gang is a good job.

From Bad to Worse...

County Indicators from Children First for Oregon 2012	2011 Number	2012 Rate	Current Rate Compared to Oregon
HEALTH			
Teen Pregnancy (per 1,000 girls ages 15-17)	20	31.5	84% Worse
CHILD WELFARE			
Abuse and Neglect Victims (per 1,000 ages 0-17)	155	19.4	45% Worse
FINANCIAL STABILITY			
Childhood Poverty ages 0-17	2,711	35.1	50% Worse
Child Support Payments		51.4	14% Worse
Unemployment		10.1	6% Worse
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION			
8 th Grade Math Proficiency	193	53.9	17% Worse
8 th Grade Reading Proficiency	204	57.1	15% Worse
Homeless Students	365	7.4	92% Worse

Eligible Students: Free or Reduced Lunch



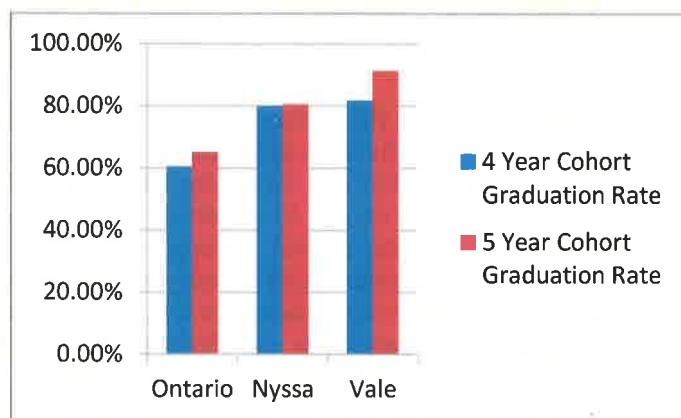
Malheur County's Education Goal

40/40/20

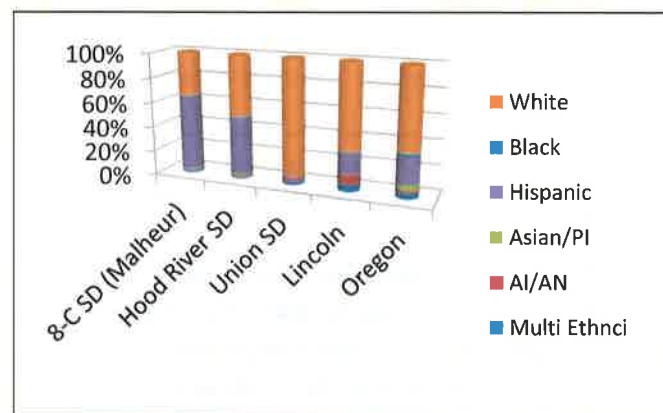
By 2025, 40 percent of adult Oregonians will have earned a bachelor's degree or higher, 40 percent will have earned an associate's degree or post-secondary credential, and the remaining 20 percent or less will have earned a high school diploma or its equivalent.

By placing an emphasis on the "Middle 40%," our grassroots efforts address and overcome the barriers that deter our students, especially those of color and those from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, from achieving success in our education system. Curriculum developers are focused on gender neutral curricula in each discipline.

High School Graduation Rates for Most Recent Cohort 2008-2012

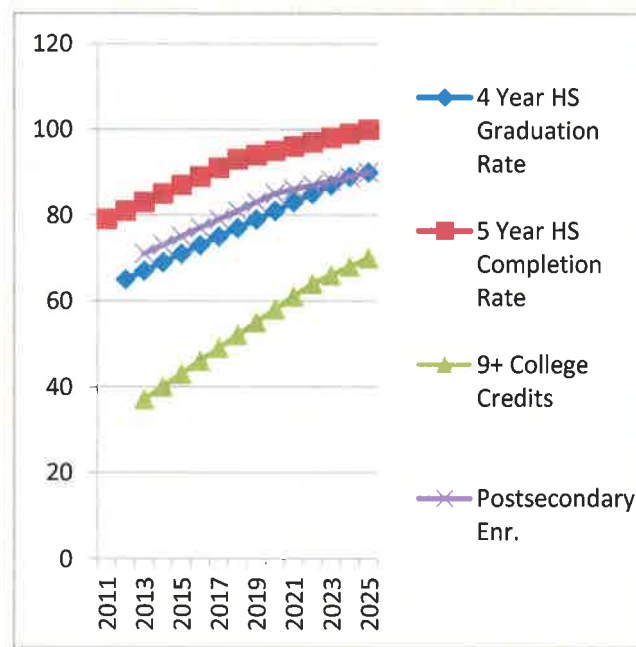


Student Ethnicity K-12



School Districts	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian Pacific Is.	AI/AN	Multi Ethnic
8-C Malheur	34.6%	0.8%	61%	1%	0.7%	1.9%
Hood River	48.7%	0.6%	46.3%	1.7%	1%	1.7%
Union	97.7%	0	1.7%	0.3%	2%	3.4%
Lincoln	68.1%	0.7%	16.9%	0.9%	7.4%	6%
Oregon	64.5%	2.5%	21.5%	4.6%	1.4%	5%

Malheur County 40/40/20 Target





Investing in Solutions

The goal is to construct a CTE Training Education Center on existing Treasure Valley Community College property, initially to offer:

- *Welding/Fabrication (current pilot)
- *Allied Health (fall 2014)
- *Automated Systems
- *Business Technology

The total cost to run programs is estimated at \$1.3 to \$1.5 million annually, with construction costs close to \$12 million.

Beyond the Hurdles

The start-up costs to create a sustainable early Career & Technical Education program has previously proved to be an insurmountable barrier for local school districts and the community college who continually grapple with providing services despite declining funding and increased state requirements. While initial actions have been focused on developing the welding and allied health CTE programs, the CTE committee is committed to the P2P vision and a fully operational CTE program for area youth.



Why Should Oregon Invest in Malheur County?

LONG TERM VALUE OF OREGON'S INVESTMENT

- Through partnerships with local business and industry, we will upgrade our technology skills to be an efficient global competitor.
 - Malheur County CTE Programs will produce skilled technicians to operate and repair sophisticated farm, ranch, and mining equipment.
- Oregon packers and processors are buying equipment built in Europe because they have trained their workforce to meet the demands of industry and America has not.
 - Labor and production costs are higher in Europe. The five-point plan brings jobs to Oregon and generates additional tax revenue.
- It is cheaper to ship onions from Holland to the New York market than it is to ship from Malheur County to the New York market.
 - This plan will yield more efficient technological processing methods for agriculture businesses to offset transportation costs, while simultaneously pursuing better rail transportation solutions.
- Agriculture does not carry the political clout on policy issues as it once did. Advances in agricultural leadership did not progress in tandem with production efficiency.
 - Malheur County supplies food to the world. Establishing "Leadership Oregon Ag" will produce effective mid-career leaders, spokespeople, and policymakers in for Oregon and the nation.
- Eastern Oregon has advantages that the rest of state does not enjoy. A primary advantage is that Malheur County has 3.2 persons per square mile compared to Multnomah County with 1,705 persons per square mile.
 - Malheur County has land resources, airshed, cheap gas and power, and the convergence of multiple highways and Interstate 84. (An airshed is part of the atmosphere that behaves in a coherent way with respect to the dispersion of emissions.)
- Nearly 25% of Malheur County residents receive SNAP benefits. Forty percent of all arrests in Malheur County are juveniles (average cost for youth in closed custody is \$219.00 per day or \$79,935.00 per year).
 - This plan decreases the consumption of Oregon's social services and involvement in the criminal justice system.
- The US Census Bureau confirms persons of Hispanic or Latino Origin are the largest minority group in Oregon (12%), Malheur County (32%) and the United States (16.7%).
 - With a county-wide average high school graduation rate of 65%, this innovative CTE program will not only allow us to achieve the 40/40/20 goals, but it will also be a model for Oregon and a gateway to lead our youth out of poverty and into prosperity.

Declaration of Cooperation:

While not a binding legal contract, the Declaration of Cooperation is evidence to, and a statement of, the good faith and commitment of the undersigned parties:

School Superintendents: Vale, Ontario, and Nyssa

Matt Hawley
Nichole Albisu
Janine Weeks

President TVCC Dana Young

Malheur Education Service District Steve Phillips

Oregon Department of Human Services Wendy Hill John Briscoe Christine Phillips

Regional Solutions Scott Fairley

Malheur County Dan Joyce Don Hodge Larry Wilson

Oregon Solutions *Beverly Stein*

Joe Kinney Industries Joe Kinney

Natural Resource Committee Andrew Bentz

NORCO John Widner

Saint Alphonsus Medical Center Karl Keeler Ken Hart

Lifeways Judy Cordeniz

Presbyterian Care Center Cathleen Sullivan

St Luke's Treasure Valley Brad Holland

XL Hospice Barbara Olson

Boys & Girls Club Paul Craft Matt Sorensen

Malheur County Juvenile Dept. & OYA Linda Cummings Ed Pierson

City of Vale Mike McLaughlin Lynn Findley

City of Ontario Jay Henry

City of Nyssa Mark Stringer Roberta Vanderwall

Ontario Executives Affiliated Andrew Bentz

BLM Vale Don Gonzalez

State Representative, District 60 Cliff Bentz

Four Rivers Healthy Community Casey Clark-Ney Angie Uptmor Peter Lawson

Oregon Employment Ed Susman

TEC Teri Simonis

SREDA Logan Hamilton Mike Hanigan Sandy Hemenway

OEIB Whitney Grubbs

Community in Action Barb Higinbotham

Ontario Area Chamber of Commerce John Breidenbach

Malheur Co Economic Dev. Gregory Smith

CTE Steering Committee Dirk DeBoer - CTE Committee Convener Dana Young - TVCC President Abby Lee - TVCC, Public Relations Director Cathy Yasuda - TVCC Foundation Exec Director Matt Hawley - Vale School Dist., Superintendent Nicole Albisu - Ontario School Dist., Super. Janine Weeks - Nyssa School Dist., Super. Steve Phillips - Malheur ESD, Superintendent Kelly Poe - Malheur ESD, Dir. Of Com. Services Wendy Hill - DHS, District Manager Riley Hill - Greystone Builders, LLC

The Oregon Solutions Declaration of Cooperation was a collaborative effort of Malheur P2P CTE Committee, Oregon Prosperity Initiative, Oregon Education Investment Board Regional Achievement Collaborative, and the Oregon Department of Education.



MALHEUR COUNTY: POVERTY TO PROSPERITY

A grassroots plan to raise up Oregon's most poverty-stricken county.

Contact: - Elaine Taylor, Malheur P2P CTE Coordinator
Malheur ESD 363 A Street W, Vale OR 97918
Elaine.Taylor@malesd.k12.or.us



HOW WILL POTENTIAL 2015-17 STATE SCHOOL FUND LEVELS IMPACT THE FUTURE OF OREGON STUDENTS?

PINE EAGLE SCHOOL DISTRICT



\$7.235 Billion
Underfunded Schools

CURRENT CO-CHAIRS' BUDGET LEVEL

With a State School Fund of \$7.235 billion, Pine Eagle School District will implement full-day kindergarten but it will come at a cost to all students, who will now experience higher class sizes due to one less certified teacher or students will suffer the loss of three instructional days.

As the state budget grows, it is time to return compensation levels for this dedicated staff of professionals. Pine Eagle School District teachers have willingly given up lost pay by agreeing to reduce their work year by 5-days which also has meant five less days of instructional time to our students.

Bottom line, this funding level falls \$80,000 short for students at Pine Eagle.



\$7.5 Billion
Fragile Stability

This funding level lets Pine Eagle School District maintain current programs and services including full-day kindergarten. However, this only prevents cuts and will not change the fundamental conditions that have caused:

- Oregon students to receive about one year less instructional time than the national average. At best, Pine Eagle School District will maintain a status quo level and will not be able to provide our students with an equal playing field as their peers throughout the nation.

Oregon students to experience the second-highest class sizes in the nation, with six more students per teacher than the national average. Grant School District's classes will still not return to pre-recession sizes at this funding level.

- Oregon schools to rank near the bottom in closing the achievement gaps and graduation rates.



\$7.875 Billion
Improvement Trajectory

This funding level will allow Pine Eagle School District to:

- increase student instructional time, and;
- implement programs and services for students who need them most.

Over time, this investment will result in:

- greater third-grade literacy,
- higher graduation rates, and;
- reduced achievement gaps.

\$7.875 billion represents the first step on a 10-year trajectory to reach the Quality Education Commission's recommended funding level of about \$9.2 billion – which happens to be the level needed for Oregon schools to reach the national average for instructional time and class size. In Oregon we used to think of ourselves as above average...now we find ourselves in a struggle just to get to average. Our children deserve more!



Oregon lags behind the nation in its investment in education. Investing in schools to reach national averages would require investment beyond \$7.875 Billion. What would it take to bring Oregon schools up to the national average for instructional time?

instructional time
+ \$450
million
class size
+ \$1.2
million

Help Us Build
The Schools
Our Students Deserve!



Contact:

Camie deCastro

Pine Eagle School District

541-742-2811

541-742-2550

CadeCastro@pineaglesd.org

Ways and Means Committee

Introduction- 18 yrs Food Bank Manager U W B G

Asking for support of the Oregon Hunger Response Fund and the proposed increase from 2.7M to 3.25 M

CCNO Started getting funds 2009

-Launched the Fresh Alliance Program- Food Rescue Program Wal-Mart/Albertsons

We pick up perishable foods and meat 5 days a week and get it to our food box recipients.

-We added a part time staff person and purchased a Refrigerated Van to ensure that we keep the food safe.

-We also purchased Refrigerators and Freezers for our 20 pantries throughout the 4 county area so they would have the capacity to accept the donations we were picking up.

In 2009 we recovered 175,000 pounds of fresh foods that would have normally gone to the landfill

Each year since we have been receiving the Oregon Hunger Response Fund the amount of pounds rescued has increased.

At the end last fiscal year we rescued 1 MILLION pounds of good food from the landfill.

Last year we distributed 1M 274,000 pounds of food to our 4 counties. Of that 273,000 was perishable food.

WE WOULD HAVE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO DO THAT WITHOUT THESE FUNDS.

As you know Albertsons has recently agreed to purchase Safeway stores. What that means for us locally is that we currently have 2 stores that we pickup products from 5 days a week. We will be bringing on an additional 3 Safeway stores to our FA program. This will more than double the pounds of fresh foods we will have to pickup and distribute.

If we are going to be successful in rescuing products from additional stores we are going to need some additional capacity dollars to make that happen. My Oregon Food Bank Network colleagues across the state are in the same situation. We are all trying to figure out how we can double our distribution of this highly perishable product. We know that we can't do it alone.

That is why we would like your support for the Oregon Hunger Response Fund AND on the proposed increase.

We need your help to keep this program successful and keep good nutritious foods out of our landfills.

Questions?

Right now of the 2.7M broken down across OFB and the 19 Regional Food Banks

Our agency gets a little over 89k for the biennium that is 45k per year to help with capacity efforts to distribute fresh foods. Our annual budget is just over 173k for the Food Bank. 2.3 FTE

In FY14

Just over 17,000 Households used food from a food bank to feed their family.
Approx 1700 unduplicated.

41,000 people ate from an emergency food box. Approx 3900 Undup

OFB = 1 M to cover transportation, storage, distribution costs of statewide produce program
Approximately an additional 150,000 pounds of produce annually

4/10/15

Senators and Representatives:

I am glad to see members of this committee spending time listening to the citizens of rural and Eastern Oregon. I hope that when you return to Salem you will remember that the needs of these people should be influencing your votes more than the wishes of the special interest groups that have inundated Salem. They will be leaving after the legislature adjourns, but the consequences of their influence is likely to leave Oregon citizens fragmented, hostile, and with a complete disrespect for the legislative and judicial processes. That brings me to SB 941 which the senate will be voting on next week prior to going to the house.

This is a bill where reality does not look in any way consistent with what those supporting it are saying.

Yesterday we released a gun to a man who had to make his second 200 mile round trip to our store. When he initially selected the gun he wanted over a month ago, he waited over an hr. for his approval and then the system pended him for 6 weeks. While we were processing his forms, we were ignoring other customers, some of which never come back. Now there is an effort to ram SB 941 down our throats. I was one of the roughly 100 citizens who showed up to speak against this bill. I was denied that opportunity, however, I sat through the public hearing and the thought I kept having was "I wish these people supporting this bill had to speak under oath because they lied." They gave examples of the types of actions this bill is supposed to stop. None of the examples given were committed with weapons that were legally obtained. They included a 14 year old gang member, a drug dealer, a person who stole the gun, a felon, and a military person. The Clackamas killer would have killed more if an armed citizen had not stopped him. None of the examples given were with handguns that had been legally obtained and all the examples were from the I-5 corridor or out of state. This bill hearing was obviously orchestrated to make it appear that those for and against the bill were roughly even.

What is verifiable is that over ½ of the Oregon counties have officially opposed this bill. From June through December of 2014 there were 722 felons denied a gun out of the 1224,305 applications. Of the 143 denied

during October, none were arrested; of the 149 denied during November, one was arrested; Of the 139 denied during December, 3 were arrested . The State Police do not track the amount of time we wait for a decision, but it is often over an hr. They also do not track the number or timeframes for people who are pended, but nearly all pending cases are later approved, and people are often waiting over a month for a decision. Is resulting in our losing customers. Now this bill wants us to process guns we are not selling, check them into our books, keep guns on pended cases and require the owners to pay to run a background check on themselves to get their guns back if the sale falls through ,and potentially have to make 2 or more trips to our store. The constitution says that you cannot "infringe" upon the rights of citizens to have guns. I call paying for gas, paying to process our paperwork, taking time away from other things and delays in obtaining their guns as clear an "infringement" as I can come up with short of flat out refusing to allow people guns altogether.

SB 941 attacks a core value of most of the citizens, both democrats and republicans, and it will do nothing to keep firearms out of the hands of criminals. What it will do is weaken peoples resolve to follow the law and it will make criminals of law abiding citizens. The word "criminal" is the only one appropriate to the level of significance that the bill assigns to those who fail to complete a paperwork requirement. Misdemeanor A places those who through ignorance of the law, or a belief that adhering to the requirements of the bill means they will give up rights guaranteed them through the consitution in the same category as those who with malicious intent injure someone with a deadly weapon

If you pass this bill, you will do irreparable damage to your ability to represent citizens of Eastern Oregon. Is no exaggeration to say that over half the people in this room believe that they are not being represented by those in Salem. Many of them would like to have this area combined with Idaho as the culture is far more consistent with the government of that state. If this bill is passed, it will prove that your priorities do not include the things that are needed by the citizens of this part of the state.

A SAMPLING OF THE BILLS BEING HEARD BY THIS LEGISLATURE THAT ARE BEING PUSHED ON THE CITIZENS BY THE "RENEWABLE ENERGY" LOBBY AND LEGISLATORS WHICH REFLECT A COMPLETE LACK OF UNDERSTANDING OF HOW ECONOMICALLY DEPRESSED CITIZENS AND BUSINESSES OF EASTERN OREGON WILL BE IMPACTED.

1. SB 258: Wind and Solar developments would only have to prove they are in compliance with local and state laws at the time of initial certification, but not at any other time no matter how many times they amended a cite certificate to change the facility or put off construction.
2. SB 259: Removes the requirement that wind and solar developmenmts can be required to reimburse some counties and cities for the legal costs associated with a contested case.
3. SB 324: Low Carbon Fuels Bill
4. SB 477: Requires that no electricity can be sold in Oregon that was generated by coal by 2025.
5. HB 2193 Requires electric companies to purchase a certain amount of energy storage capacity by 2020.
6. HB 2632: Authorizes an Oregon Supported Production Tax Credit for utilities who build solar developments based upon the amount of energy produced.
7. HB-2762-Requires schools that provide meals to eliminate all use of polystyrene foam by 2021. *(Shows as no revenue impact)*
8. HB 2946 Removes the limit on the amount of the cost of things like weatherization programs that utilities can recover from their customers in the rates they charge.
9. HB-3068: Directs the Department of Environmental Quality to conduct a study and recommend legislation that will "encourage" homeowners to transition from older wood stoves to cleaner or different clean heating systems. This will no doubt include items such as tax credits, retro-fitting, and/or rules. *(Shows as no revenue impact)*

10. HB 3250: This bill requires ongoing reductions in CO2 emissions in Oregon. Those who do not meet the standard will be required to purchase "credits" from the Department of Energy. This is a lot like monopoly. The more CO2 you release, the more "credits" the manufacturer or distributor would be required to purchase and they will pass that cost on to the customers. The money paid is put in the bank. The Department of Revenue and Department of Environmental Quality take out whatever it costs to deal with the money plus whatever is borrowed to start the program up. The rest stays with the Department of Revenue and is handled like taxes. In other words, anyone who can attach your taxes can also attach this money, and if there is anything left after your taxes are paid you get it back). *(Problems with this bill: Oregonians will have to be making payments for pollution created out of state because the bulk of our fuels and much of our energy is generated out of state. Most of the energy generated in Oregon is renewable as it comes from our dams, but much of that is sent out of state. We then purchase "dirty" energy from other states. This bill will add another layer of costs to gas that is already going to be impacted by the "Carbon Bill". This bill will require Oregon businesses and customers to pay fees for energy generated out of state absent any say in what sources of energy are used in Oregon. It is a program that will collect money from businesses who will increase the cost of electricity and fuel to consumers. The biggest function it will provide is an opportunity for the Department of Energy and the Department of Revenue to hire a few more people)*
11. 3252: Places a tax on the amount of carbon in the fuel and generation of electricity which is sold in Oregon.
12. HB 3415: Requires no fracking for exploration or production of oil and gas in the state for the next 10 years.
13. HB 3470: Requires the Environmental Quality Commission to develop greenhouse gas limits for Oregon,
14. HB 3492: Requires counties to accept a \$7,000 per megawatt fee instead of the property taxes they would normally receive for solar

developments. According to the department of revenue, this will reduce their payments by roughly 2/3 per year.

The bills you pass are typically looked at as "stand alone" issues. There is rarely any effort to assess the direct and indirect impacts to the citizens of rural areas and no compilation of the cumulative impacts on the citizens of the state. RESTRICTIONS, REGULATIONS, PAPER PROCESSING REQUIREMENTS, TAXES, TAX INCENTIVES, GRANTS, LOW INTEREST LOANS ALONG WITH A HOST OF DIFFERENT TERMS USED IN THESE BILLS ALL COST THE CONSUMER MONEY, RAISE THE COST OF LIVING AND CAUSE BUSINESSES TO FAIL.

To date I have seen little or no indication that there is any effort to move forward bills important to the people of this are. This session is so focused on moving control to Salem, passing bills that hurt businesses, bills that get collect more money, and supporting the "green energy" lobby that everything else has become unimportant. I would like to believe that the committee which is hearing from the people of eastern Oregon today will give serious consideration to denying funding for some of the burdensome bills that are being passed. I hope you think beyond the statements attached to the bulk of the bills saying there is "No Financial Impact". Bills that do not require direct action to fund them are often the ones most costly to the people of the state both financially and in terms of stripping people of their freedom and decision making power.



Irene Gilbert

2310 Adams Ave.

La Grande, Oregon 97850

e-mail: ott.irene@frontier.com

4/10/15

Distinguished members of the Ways and Means Committee: Good evening, my name is Meredith Lair and I am honored to be here this evening. Thank you for the opportunity to discuss our efforts to markedly improve the number of health care experts available to rural Oregon through health occupations education and outreach.

I am the executive director for Northeast Oregon Area Health Education Center, or NEOAHEC, located on campus here at Eastern Oregon University. In its 24th year, NEOAHEC has offered high quality, STEM and CTE rich pipeline programs to thousands of students from grade school to graduate school in direct partnership with EOU and under the leadership and direction of Oregon Health and Science University, with the ultimate goal of growing our own medical professionals.

There are four Area Health Education Centers in Oregon with our program office and budget located within OHSU. NEOAHEC has a flourishing partnership with EOU who is community driven and regionally focused. Like EOU, we have a large geographic span serving 11 counties in Northeast Oregon from the Idaho border to Hood River.

Our geography and ability to nimbly adapt to meet the unique needs of students in our frontier communities gives EOU and NEOAHEC the opportunity to serve students interested in Math, Science, Technology or a Health Career with comprehensive programs like Girls In Science, Saturday Science, Future Health Professionals of Oregon, an online health occupations course perfectly designed for frontier high school students, and MedQuest, our residential health career exploration camp. Without these opportunities many students in our region would not have any exposure to health occupations training.

A great testament to our work is our students that go onto practice medicine in a rural community and those we are able to track through our pipeline along their way.

Following his passion wasn't always easy for John Combe who is now works as a Nationally Certified Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork therapist in La Grande and has the distinguished honor to work on athletes at the summer Olympic games. John's participation as one of NEOAHEC's first MedQuest campers helped by immersing him in the health care culture. He has now assumed the role of mentor and teacher for young students supporting them to become health professionals.

Dr. Steve Koza, a local dentist, OHSU alumnus, and NEOAHEC MedQuest camper, counselor and now volunteer preceptor and financial supporter, was given a scholarship by NEOAHEC to attend a Dental Careers Institute. He was one of the two youngest students in his graduating class from OHSU. He owns Koza Family Dental Care clinic in La Grande, stretching his impact on the community by employing ten in his clinic. In addition to basic family dental care, Koza also works as a clinical instructor and is a past chair of the NEOAHEC board.

We started tracking current students like Bailey earlier in the pipeline as she participated in our Girls in Science middle school camp, MedQuest as a student and counselor, OHSU's Med Stars Camp, and is now an undergraduate student at EOU pursuing a pre-health degree to go onto a physical therapy program with the intention of coming back to serve a rural community.

Another way we grow our own medical professionals is to provide OHSU with a pool of deserving and well-qualified students for our state's Scholars for Healthy Oregon Program or SHOI. SHOI was created last year providing \$2.5 million in scholarships to incentivize students from or with ties to Oregon to serve our state's rural medical needs after graduation. I had the distinct pleasure of meeting one of the scholarship recipients

who is from Pendleton at a reception this winter. Elizabeth is in her first year of the Physician Assistant program and is already being sought after to practice at a clinic in Pendleton upon her graduation, illustrating the overwhelming demand for practitioners in rural Oregon and why OHSU and the state of Oregon has made such a worthy investment in rural healthcare. Elizabeth said the training to become a Physician's Assistant is rewarding and intense and said the experience is made easier by knowing she won't graduate with huge student loans hanging over her head.

NEOAHEC continues to work diligently to achieve excellent outcomes to address the healthcare professional shortage that only continues to grow. As you can see students from a rural background, given tools from AHEC programs come back to serve the rural communities they came from. I thank your committee for your support of AHEC and rural healthcare outlined in the OHSU budget and your support of our greatest partner, Eastern Oregon University.

Thank you so much for this opportunity to appear before the committee.

2015 Ways & Means Field Hearing-- La Grande, Oregon
April 10, 2015

My name is Robert Messinger, from Summerville in Union County, Oregon. I am a retired professional forester. I am a member of the OSU Extension Advisory Committee locally and chairperson of the Budget Committee. I am here to ask for your committee's support of SB 657.

The local 4H and Extension programs are of vital importance to the communities of Northeast Oregon. The program recorded 23,718 direct individual contacts with youth and adults in our region-from Union County based faculty, 11,513 indirect contacts, 224,437 media contacts, and was assisted by 128 volunteers. The local program areas include Family & Community Health, Crops, Forestry, 4-H, and Master Gardeners. The local Extension staff members also participate in a wide variety of community based coalitions, boards, and planning committees.

As members of the joint Ways and Means Committee, you know that SB 657 provides for an investment of \$16 million to strengthen OSU programs serving both natural resources (agriculture, forestry and marine) and human resources (family, youth and community). Specifically these include, the OSU Extension Service, Oregon Agriculture Experiment Station (AES) and Oregon Forest Research Laboratory. This money is a needed investment in the future of our local communities. The 3% increase offered in the Governor's budget will be insufficient to allow our existing work to be fully funded. Without SB 657 funding some programs may have to be reduced or curtailed.

Although I am very supportive of all the OSU Extension Service programs, my special interest is in the Extension Forestry program. The program provides valuable resources and information tools to help private forest landowners manage their natural resources. The local extension foresters have developed a wide array of forestry education programs, newsletters and short courses designed to assist the private landowners in obtaining the technical information they need to properly manage their forest lands. Examples of these programs include:

- 1. Master Woodlands Program, a program that provides specialized training by OSU Forestry Extension for qualified family forest land owners to be effective volunteers & community leaders.*
- 2. Northeast Oregon Tree School, a day long class that provides valuable "hands on" training in a wide variety of resource management subjects, taught by experts in the their field.*
- 3. Blue Mountains Renewable Resources Newsletter, which contains important articles for land managers and helps to transfer current research findings and development information.*
- 4. My Blue Mountains Woodland, a new partnership between OSU Extension and many local agencies, that seeks to dramatically increase the number of currently under-engaged Landowners in active stewardship of their forested property.*
- 5. Forest Tax Workshops, designed to provide landowners understand the various tax forms and filing requirements for forestlands.*
- 6. Forest succession workshops*
- 7. Water and wildlife management workshops*
- 8. Tree insect and disease workshops and field trips*
- 9. Logging contract and log pricing information*

The Forestry Extension program is very important to local landowners, especially small woodland owners, because without OSU Extension there is no program readily available to provide the information. There is no other easily accessible source in Northeast Oregon. Please support the efforts of the OSU Extension Service and other Statewide Public Services by supporting SB 657. With your support, the important education and research, so vital to local stakeholders, will be able to continue. Thank you for the opportunity to provide input for this hearing.

*Robert Messinger
67826 Hunter Road
Summerville, Or 97876*

I would like your support on all efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions HB3250. This could definitely justify use of the emergency clause.

I support any and all efforts to remove incentives for illegal aliens to work and/or live/remain in this state. We do not have the resources to accommodate this population and illegal immigration is not a healthy input into today's society.

Charles L. LeBold
Union, OR
541-562-6153

4/10/2015

Hi. My name is Rebecca Elliott. I'm from La Grande. I'm here tonight on behalf of many other parents who could not be here.

I am simply a mother.

My three children are here with me tonight. I love them FIERCELY. When I become a mother, they instantly became the most important thing in my life. Every decision I make for them is carefully weighed and considered. I am their mother: I know them better than anyone else in the world. I alone know what is in the very best interest of my my children.

Senator Steiner Hayward:

I HAVE NEVER, and WILL NEVER need the stamp of approval from a doctor, teacher, dentist or any other type of professional to tell me that my choice for them is okay, and I abhor you for thinking that is something you should mandate. It is an erosion of my parental rights and I will not accept it, nor will my fellow Oregonians.

We are not frogs. We realize you are progressively turning up the heat, and we will not stand by complacently and allow it. When SB 442 was defeated in the medical committee, you simply revamped it and are now trying to bring it through the educational committee with SB 895. It's is underhanded and sneaky.

You are in a position that was created to SERVE the people. To exercise THEIR WILL, not your own. Please remember that.

From: [Dale Inslee](#)
To: [waysandmeans budget](#)
Subject: Roadshow La Grande
Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2015 8:06:17 AM
Attachments: [OHA Bonding Package One Pager \(2\).pdf](#)

First I regret not being able to speak in person to the committee, and to thank you for this alternate means to express our needs in eastern Oregon.

I represent the Northeast Oregon Housing Authority, needless to say we house the less fortunate folks of Union, Baker, Grant, and Wallowa counties. Although in a rural setting we are experiencing a shortage of safe decent and affordable housing, the rents are higher than average wages can support, the housing stock is out dated and run down, are most resent 38 unit LIHTC project was the first to be built in over 20 yrs. Now this modern energy efficient safe and decent complex has 193 families on the waiting list and we haven't completed the project yet. This one fact shows the need for more housing in our area. There are families in motels, storage units and worse awaiting emergency housing from the community action groups but the need far exceeds the supply.

Please consider the \$100,000,000 bond initiative to end homelessness and develop affordable housing in Eastern Oregon also.

(see attached one pager)

Have a Great Day

~Dale Inslee

P.H.M. Executive Director

Northeast Oregon Housing Authority

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Housing The People of Eastern Oregon



Oregon needs innovative approaches to meet growing housing needs

\$100 million needed for affordable housing

Oregon Housing Authorities (OHA), the statewide association of public housing authorities, strongly supports the proposed bonding package that will allocate \$100 million for Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) to develop new affordable housing units. As both administrators of the Section 8 program, and as owners and developers of affordable housing, we know first-hand the dire need for this resource across the State of Oregon. There are communities in Deschutes, Linn, Benton and Jackson County where securing a low-cost rental unit is virtually impossible. Throughout the state, too many families are rent-burdened, meaning they spend more than a third of their income on rent. The lack of affordable housing increases homelessness and displacement for low-income families and their children.

Community benefits to housing stability

Everyone needs a safe place to call home. We know that children are more successful in school and have better health when their housing is stable. We know that families can better manage their health when they are not burdened with rents that exceed a third of their income. Currently, too many families must choose between paying their rent, their bills, or buying food and medicine. In such situations, there is no right choice. Increasing the state's supply of affordable housing in all settings –rural, urban and suburban, will help make rents better fit their household budget.

Our commitment to make it work

OHA will work in partnership with OHCS to help develop a comprehensive investment strategy for the \$100 million that will best meet the needs of low-income Oregonians. Our goal will be to have these funds leverage federal programs and federal funding including HUD's Rental Assistance Demonstration program, the preservation of public housing, project based Section 8 and other resources managed by OHA members. The resources and needs of OHA members are unique and OHCS will need to deliberately factor in these opportunities and challenges as it puts together a thoughtful investment strategy. Further, these funds have an opportunity to be flexible and adaptable to the unique and dynamic nature of the real estate market in communities across the great state of Oregon.



Who we are

The 22 agencies of Oregon Housing Authorities (OHA) are committed to providing safe and affordable housing to Oregonians facing income, disability or other life challenges.

We believe children, seniors, and people with disabilities need a place to call home in order to be healthy and successful in life. Our members work collaboratively to bring increased visibility and a united voice for affordable housing to Oregon.

Rental assistance

- OHA delivers rental assistance to 33,600 low-income Oregon households.
- We own and manage more than 5,500 units of public housing for low-income families, seniors and people with disabilities.
- We give more than 36,000 children a place to call home
- Every year, housing authorities distribute more than \$176 million in rental assistance payments to 12,800 private landlords throughout Oregon.

Development

Oregon Housing Authorities have built and acquired more than 10,400 units of affordable housing throughout the state and currently have more than 1,300 new units in the development pipeline. We work with public and private partners to finance and build affordable housing that fits communities and boosts local economies. We believe the dream of quality, sustainably-built affordable housing can be best achieved by partnership and the successful leveraging of local, state and federal funding resources.