



**friends of
outdoor
SCHOOL**



***Speech given by Tana Barnett, Outdoor School attendee and
Student Leader (high school volunteer junior counselor)***

"Sixth-grade me" never would have guessed that I would be here speaking in front of you guys today, that I would be enrolled in college, or even that I would be graduated from high school. "Sixth-grade me" couldn't see the future through the dark fog that I was in. Outdoor School in sixth grade, while an amazing, fond memory that will stay with me for a lifetime, was not life-changing. It was a light in the dark room.

"By the end of the week, I couldn't believe that I did it... and I did it good enough they asked me to come back! That made me think maybe I could do more than I thought. Maybe there's a whole world of opportunities out there and I just didn't think I was good enough."

Over the next couple of years, I made bad choices for reasons that no longer matter. I gave up school. I gave up on relationships with family and friends and my passion for singing. It was something so common in my neighborhood that it felt as easy as breathing. By the time I reached my junior year I had been released from school twice for absenteeism. The only reason I even came back was so that I could drop out on my own terms.

My adviser suggested that I go to Outdoor School Workshop to get away from everything.

That workshop was amazing. It was the first time in such a long time that I was actually happy. I didn't really expect to get a week [as a Student Leader], but I did and that first week was heaven on the mountain. I was blown away by the love, the respect, the compliments, the thank-you notes.



Tana Barnett (left) after winning her Multnomah ESD Student Leader college scholarship, 2016

By the end of the week I couldn't believe that I did it. Something so taxing, so alien, so rewarding, and I did it good enough they asked me to come back!

That made me think maybe I could do more than I thought. Maybe there's a whole world of opportunities out there and I just didn't think I was good enough.

Being a Student Leader reminded me of who I was and it honed skills that I didn't even know that I had. It reminded me how much I love being around other young people, how much I love singing and family-style meals. I found that I can improvise well enough that the twelve-year-olds around me don't realize I have no idea what's going on. I found out I have the ability to teach, to facilitate. And with those skills I survived my senior speech, my graduation speech, my first two college speeches, and now I'm surviving this one! [laughter]

I have facilitated focus groups, club meetings, and later tonight a forum on being mixed race, and I will perform my first slam poem. Sometimes I'm overwhelmed by how far I've come in just two short years.

So the point of this is to express to you that Outdoor School is important. It's important to me, to a host of my friends, to our education system, and to our state. It gives sixth-graders a light to carry them through the dark years of middle school. It gives high school students the opportunity to find out what it means to be looked up to. And it gives everyone who passes through the program the opportunity to be loved truly for who you are and not just what you have to offer.

Thank you.

Tana Barnett

**2017 Regional Transportation Agenda:
Recommendations**

The Portland region is committed to addressing critical transportation needs for the metro area and the state as a whole. Doing so requires both clear priorities and the willingness to propose bold solutions. The region's agenda for this session is in line with "Scenario 1" of the January report of the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC). This scenario, when combined with the urgent needs of cities and counties, would require a legislative package of approximately \$1 billion.

The Portland region's legislative agenda is based upon the following principles:

1. **Fix It First**
2. **Prioritize Transit**
3. **Address Metropolitan Area Congestion**
4. **Improve Regional Air Quality**
5. **Invest in Multi-Modal Solutions**
6. **Preserve Local Options**

The elements of the 2017 legislative funding package endorsed by the Portland metropolitan region are as follows:

1. Fix-It First:

- a. Increase State Highway Fund revenues at a sufficiently significant level to catch up with needed maintenance, operations and preservation on the city/county/state road system.
- b. Establish a pilot funding program to facilitate the transfer of roads between ODOT and local governments.
- c. Index the resource to avoid future losses of revenue or purchasing power.
- d. Ensure that critical lifeline corridors are able to withstand a seismic event.

2. Prioritize Transit:

- a. The region supports a significant ongoing investment in statewide transit operations, as reported from the statewide hearings of the Joint Committee on Transportation Preservation and Modernization, and recommended by the Governor's Transportation Vision Panel. Expanding transit operations was identified as the most important factor in achieving the region's state-mandated Climate Smart Strategy.
- b. The region is actively pursuing a \$150 million investment in the Southwest Corridor, a one-time state capital investment comparable to previous light rail projects.

3. Address Metropolitan Area Congestion:

- a. Like the OTC, the Portland metropolitan region has prioritized its highest priorities. In partnership with ODOT, the region has identified three priority bottleneck projects along the I-5 Corridor (Rose Quarter, Hwy 217, I-205 Abernethy Bridge). These were recognized as priorities in statewide hearings of the Joint Committee on Transportation Preservation and Modernization, and by the Governor's Transportation Vision Panel. The region has invested early dollars in project development and is willing to pursue additional *regional* investments in these projects. This would represent a bold new funding model for addressing these projects of statewide significance. To make this viable for voters in our region, the state package should include sufficient funds to bond for at least half of the capital construction cost on these state facilities. Initial state funding is absolutely necessary to catalyze regional match.

- b. Congestion should be addressed through a multi-modal package of investments. In addition to the proposed transit and highway improvements, the region supports calls for a significant increase in statewide funding for active transportation. This would best be achieved through alignment with the region's adopted Active Transportation Plan.

4. Improve Regional Air Quality:

- a. Federal funding from the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) improvement program have been stretched to include more urban regions with existing funds. This means reduced funding for air quality in the Portland metro region at exactly the time when it is most needed. The Legislature should ensure that these programs are kept whole or expanded in the Portland region, while addressing other urgent needs around the state.

5. Invest in Multi-Modal Solutions

- a. The region supports a seventh round of Connect Oregon funding for non-road multi-modal transportation projects, at the higher funding levels of the program's earlier rounds. This program has been critical for addressing the region's freight mobility needs, as well as advancing the region's Active Transportation Strategy.
- b. The region reiterates its support for comprehensive investments to improve mobility, including efforts to relieve highway bottlenecks, expand the light rail network and enhance transit service, and provide safe bicycle and pedestrian connections.

6. Support and Expand Local Options

- a. The Legislature should remove existing restrictions on local and regional revenue-raising authority, and avoid enacting new limitations or pre-emptions.
- b. The Legislature should explore new tools and authorities that give local governments the flexibility to build, operate and fund transportation systems that support prosperity, livability and sustainability. Additional regional tools provide an opportunity to acknowledge that a higher level of capital infrastructure investment is necessary in the metropolitan region than in other areas of the state, given the higher population and resulting congestion of both residential development and job creation.



February 11, 2017

Joint Committee on Ways and Means
900 Court Street
Salem, OR 97301

Member of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means:

On behalf of the Levee Ready Columbia Oregon Solutions Project team I am writing to encourage you to appropriate a minimum of \$10 million to Business Oregon's Infrastructure Finance Authority for the 2017-2019 biennium to fund its Levee Assistance Program. This funding will help local communities evaluate and improve the state's aging levee systems which are essential for life safety, economic stability and resiliency, state land use plans, and compliance with federal regulations.

The Levee Ready Columbia Oregon Solutions project team is a partnership of organizations including local, regional, state, and federal agencies as well as neighborhood, environmental, and business groups. We are collaborating to ensure that the levee systems in the Portland metro-region, located along the Columbia Corridor and on Sauvie Island, meet our community's need to reduce future flood risk and to avoid the harm to life and property that communities in Oregon have experienced in the past.

In 1948, for example, a flood destroyed the community of Vanport. At the time, Vanport was the state's second largest community and was home to some of the state's most vulnerable populations including minorities experiencing restricted access to housing in other areas of the state and recently returned World War II veterans. At least 15 individuals lost their lives in the flood and the community was abandoned. Just 16 years later, the Christmas Floods of 1964, regarded as one of the worst natural disasters in Oregon history, resulted in flood events on the Rogue, Sandy, Willamette, Deschutes, and other rivers across the state. The Vancouver Gage, which measures river elevations at the confluence of the Columbia and Willamette rivers, has measured three "100 year" and two "500 year" flood events in the last 125 years.

There is no doubt that Oregon has a risk of flooding in the future. Statewide, there are 333 miles of documented levees reducing the risk of flooding to over 400 square miles of property. The vast majority of Oregon's known levees were constructed over 50 years ago by either local property owners or by the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to reduce the risk of flooding to agricultural areas. These levees are mostly managed by local entities and are in various states of repair.

However, since the construction of the levees, the land use in areas behind the levees has changed dramatically and in many ways intentionally, to meet state land use planning goals. For example, in the Portland area, the Columbia Corridor levee system, originally built to serve farmers, now reduces flood risk for critical infrastructure like the Portland International Airport, interstate highways, railroads, and the Columbia South Shore Well Field, a source of drinking water serving over 800,000 Oregonians. This area is essential to the regional and state economy and is home to \$16 billion in annual economic activity and 17 percent of the future industrial growth capacity for the region. Even more importantly, levees reduce the risk of flooding to businesses that generate 10 percent of the jobs in Multnomah County, many of which are blue collar family wage jobs.



A \$10 million appropriation to the IFA will support not only the Portland metro area, but numerous rural and urban communities across the state including Scappoose, Warrenton, Reedsport, Springfield, Pendleton, Rainier, and Milton-Freewater. The Levee Assistance Program will enable communities throughout Oregon to apply towards critical improvement to aging levee infrastructure that reduces flood risk for working lands, residential, commercial, and industrial development, and other community assets.

Without state support to improve levee infrastructure, communities across the state face serious threats to their quality of life, safety, and local economies. First and foremost, failure to properly invest in flood risk reduction infrastructure puts the citizens in harm's way. Additionally, if Oregon's local communities fail to meet new and higher federal standards, they face the prospect of onerous and costly flood insurance premiums (due to FEMA remapping formerly protected areas as special flood hazard areas), strict regulation of development, and the loss of federal assistance during and after high water events from USACE. State assistance to meet new federal standards ensures communities remain resilient and response to flood risk.

As you prepare your budget for the 2017-19 biennium, please keep in mind the value of levees across Oregon's landscape. Investing in this risk reduction infrastructure is an investment in our state's resilience: it strengthens our state's economy in the present and prevents disastrous flood damage in the future. We urge your strong support for the Business Oregon's Infrastructure Finance Authority \$10 million budget request for levee infrastructure

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jules Bailey", with a stylized, flowing script.

Regards,
Jules Bailey
Convener of Levee Ready Columbia

On behalf of the Levee Ready Columbia Project Team:

East Columbia Neighborhood Association
Bridgeton Neighborhood Association
Columbia Corridor Association
Columbia Slough Watershed Council
Audubon Society
Peninsula Drainage District #1
Peninsula Drainage District #2
Multnomah County Drainage District #1
Sandy Drainage Improvement Company
Sauvie Island Drainage Improvement Company
Multnomah County
Metro
Port of Portland

City of Portland:
Mayor's Office Bureau of Environmental Services
Bureau of Parks and Recreation Water Bureau
Bureau of Transportation
City of Gresham
City of Fairview
City of Troutdale
State of Oregon:
Governor's Regional Solutions Team
Department of Environmental Quality
Department of Land Conservation and
Development
Federal Emergency Management Agency
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

February 10, 2017

- 2) **Veterans** receiving **large VA compensation** packages in the **larger cities** sometimes **move to rural Oregon** where their **fixed income will go farther**.

Point #4: Potential for growth in Oregon if the number of VSO's increases

2017 Status: My 12/2016 viewing of the USDVA website's statistical data revealed that a potential for growing our State's economy is still present.

Data: FY 2015 VA website data:

- **Oregon: 321,080** veterans
-
- VA Compensation & Pension annual payments to Oregon
vets: \$1,281,055,000 – **Oregon Vets receiving VA Compensation:
68,800+ (1/5 of vets in Oregon) ; "pension vets": 5900+**
-
- I have been told by a former USDVA Director for Oregon that the VA estimates the number of **disabled vets** nation-wide is about **1/3 of all vets** (i.e., about **100,000 Oregon vets**)

Analysis: If our 1/5 of disabled vets receive about \$1 Billion in VA compensation, then could all of our 1/3 disabled vets receive about \$1.5 Billion (additional \$500 Million)? The VA has always stressed that benefits are higher for vets who are assisted by VSO's (and NSO's) compared to benefits for vets preparing their own submissions. We have room for growth to match a state such as Oklahoma where a higher percentage of vets receive VA benefits (a point made by ODVA Director Cameron Smith).

Conclusion: The voters approved Measure 96 to further assist veterans, but we also have the opportunity to grow the economy as a whole. Funding more VSO's and NSO's should help Oregon move closer to the goal of adding a potential \$500 Million to our economy through VA Compensation & Pension payments. It may have an added effect for small rural counties.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglass T. MacEllven

To: Oregon Joint Ways & Means Committee (Hearing @ PCC- 2/11/17)

Re: Support- Measure 96 funding to increase the # of Veterans Services Officers

From: Douglass T. MacEllven (Military Officers of America Assoc- Portland Chap)

I am a member of Oregon State Bar, former USAF Officer, and life member of 4 veterans' organizations including MOAA. I am resident in Columbia County, but from 2005 – 2010, I was CVSO of Washington County. I testified before the Legislature in 2005 when you increased funding for CVSO's, and I provided written testimony on 12/13/2016 to the House Committee on Veterans & Emergency preparedness in support of using Measure 96 funds to increase the number of County Veterans Services Officers (CVSO) and Veterans Services Officers (VSO). Today, I stress four key points.

Point #1: Federal VA payments boost the entire local economy through the "*multiplier effect*".

CVSO's assist veterans with USDVA disability compensation and pension claims. Federal compensation/pension payments not only help veterans but also the entire community given the "*economic multiplier effect*". Compensation/pension payments are spent in local grocery stores, local gas stations, etc (not kept in off-shore bank accounts). As I recall from college economics, the "*Multiplier Effect*" on the local economy is about 7 times the original Federal VA payment.

Point #2: Impact of increasing VSO's in Washington County 2005 - 2010

2005 success: The Oregon Legislature approved increased funding for hiring more VSO's across our State. Resulting boost to Washington County's economy with added VSO's

- **2 VSO's** (in our CVSO office) - **pre-2005**: annual VA Compensation & Pension to Washington County veterans (whether assisted by our CVSO office, by ODVA, or by NSO's)

1995 - \$ 5 million; 2005 – \$25 million (10 year growth: **\$20 million**)

- **5 VSO's** (in our CVSO office) - **post-2005** (*State & county funding*): annual VA Compensation & Pension to Washington County vets

2005 - \$25 million; 2010 - \$60 million (5 year growth: **\$35 million**)

Point #3: Effect on Rural Oregon

- 1) In **smaller counties**, how many **private employers** have **payrolls** that **exceed** the **VA payments** to veterans in the county? I presume only a **few** or perhaps **none**?



Matt Utterback
Superintendent

utterback@nclack.k12.or.us
12400 SE Freeman Way, Milwaukie, Oregon 97222
503-353-6001

February 11, 2017

The Honorable Richard Devlin
900 Court St. NE
Oregon State Capitol
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Senator Devlin,

I am writing to share concerns I have with the level of public school funding being discussed in both the Governor's and Co-Chairs' budgets. Either budget level would have a negative impact on our ability to meet state and district educational goals as well as on our ability to meet parent expectations they share for our education system.

Below, I've outlined a list of impacts from each of the two budgets. I have purposely kept the impacts broad, but rest assured that each student in North Clackamas Schools will lose a significant part of their education.

An educational funding level of between \$7.8 and \$8.02 billion would require North Clackamas Schools to make between **\$13 - \$10 million in reductions** to avoid deficit spending. These reductions would impact all students - especially our most vulnerable student learners by increasing class sizes, reducing or eliminating intervention programs, and reducing educational options that support the education of the whole child. Consequences of this funding level could include:

- **Cutting teachers / staff - equivalent to 130- 100 teaching positions** resulting in escalating class sizes, or
- **Cutting 25-19 instructional days** which reduces employees' salaries and valuable student instructional time, or
- A combination of the above and other reductions, such as the elimination of curriculum adoptions that are planned to replace learning materials that are over 17 years old, and eliminating or reducing elective programs

I hope that as I share this funding situation with our parents and community members in North Clackamas, I can also share a response from you on what can be done to turn this around.

Thank you so much for your service and for your work on behalf of our students,

Respectfully,

Matthew Utterback
North Clackamas School District
Superintendent



Preparing graduates who are inspired and empowered to strengthen the quality of life in our local and global communities.

"Co-chair Devlin, Co-Chair Buckley and Members of the Committee,

For the record, my name is Jim Houser and I am co-owner of Hawthorne Auto Clinic here in Portland. As a small business owner and the Co-Chair of the Main Street Alliance of Oregon, a small business advocacy organization, I am here to emphasize the importance of funding community colleges sufficiently for the upcoming biennium, particularly for Career Technical Education programs especially the Career Pathways Initiative. Oregon Community Colleges need at least \$634 million as a hold-even budget. Anything less will directly impact community college students with significantly higher tuition, combined with cuts to class sections and support services.

As a business owner in Portland for the last 34 years, I have benefited from partnering with both Portland Community College and Mt. Hood Community College through their Automotive Service Tech programs. I have been an active member of their industry advisory committees, provided co-op internship opportunities for students, and hired graduates as ASE Certified Technicians. In fact, I am the only full-time employee of our company who is not a community college alumni. As an active advisory committee member for Mt. Hood Community College's Automotive program, I worked with the faculty on the development of a new Career Pathways Certificate for a Light Repair and Maintenance Technician. This accelerated training prepares students for entry-level employment in the field and also supports them in continuing their studies towards an Associate's degree. The Career Pathways Certificate has attracted more diverse students from high schools, some that no longer have Auto Tech high school CTE programs. It has also opened up new opportunities for lower skilled adults with an educational pathway to a family wage job.

The auto repair industry has an aging workforce and has a strong need to hire qualified Auto Service Technicians into the future. Oregon community college Automotive Tech programs, including those with stackable certificates are critical for businesses such as mine to succeed. Community colleges cannot continue these CTE and pathways programs without at least \$634 million in the Community College Support Fund during this biennium.

Thank you

--

**Jim Houser
Hawthorne Auto Clinic, Inc.
4307 SE Hawthorne Blvd.
Portland, OR 97215
503-234-2119
503-234-4230, fax
www.hawthorneauto.com
jim@hawthorneauto.com**

Mike Litt
littm10@comcast.net

We have a \$1.8 billion hole in our budget for the current biennium. Because Measure 97 failed, draconian cuts will need to be made in state support for education, health care and human services. I urge the legislature to do whatever it can to increase revenues by making corporations and wealthy individuals pay their fair share.

Almost every crisis that our state is facing is a result of the growing inequalities of wealth and income.

Given the /Republicans' unwillingness to ^{raise taxes} ~~address this issue~~, it may be difficult to find the super majority required to pass a tax increase, or even to refer one to the voters. However, it should be possible to find the simple majority ~~votes~~ to rein in tax breaks that primarily benefit wealthy individuals and corporations.

^{Saw} I am a cyclist who regularly bikes along the Springwater trail. Last spring and summer I ~~learned about the~~ many desperate homeless people who camped along that area. They were forced to relocate to God knows where, ^{but} I've still seen homeless tent camps under bridges and overpasses in many parts of Portland

Hence I urge the adoption of HB 2006, which would disallow deductions for mortgage interest on 2nd or 3rd residences and also decrease the allowable deductions for mortgage interest on the primary residences of very wealthy individuals. The additional revenue so gained would be directed towards affordable housing and homelessness programs. At a time when many in the state cannot find affordable housing, this bill should be a no-brainer.

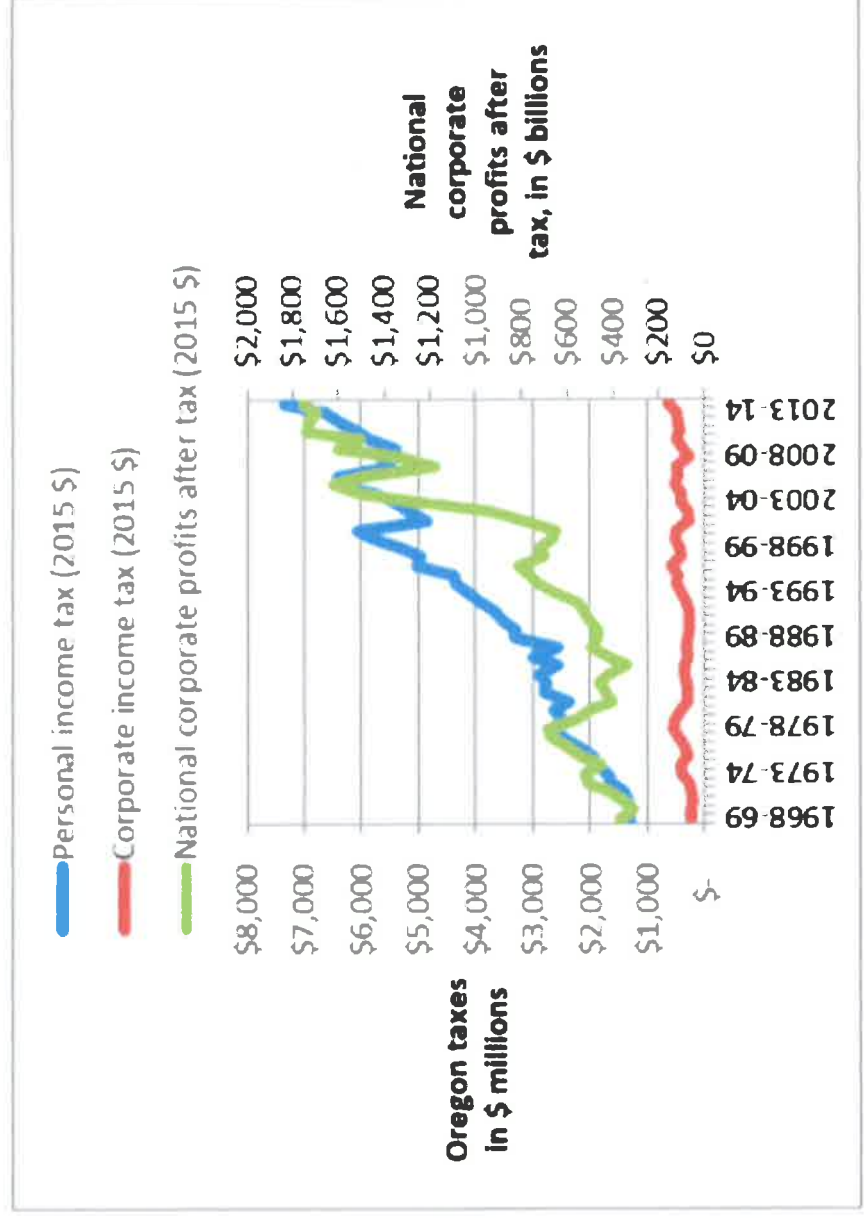


TAX FAIRNESS OREGON

We Read the Bills and Follow the Money

Measure 97 made clear that it's a mystery how much in taxes specific businesses are paying –or not paying.

We do know that corporate profits have soared, while corporate income taxes receipts have stayed flat over recent decades.



Ways and Means Committee
Public Testimony of Beaverton School Board Member, Donna Tyner
Portland Community College, Sylvania Campus
February 11, 2017

My name is Donna Tyner and I am a member of the Beaverton School Board. Thank you for listening to the public and hosting this meeting today. As an elected school board member, I thank you for addressing the challenges we face in public education and your willingness to take on the difficult decisions you must make in balancing legislative priorities.

We are here today to share our common belief in public education. This includes the right of all students to have an educational environment where science, foreign language, arts, music and technology are included in the curriculum. If we short change our students, we shortchange Oregon and America. Public education drives our dream of opportunity for all children and prevents the rise of favoritism based on wealth and privilege. The nation demands access to the talents of its entire people not just those chosen few. Our success has been our diversity and the revolution of the middleclass in America has been our fortune. This has not been an accident it was a policy born of our belief in an educated people.

This year we grew the Beaverton School District's graduation rate to 83%, the highest rate in over 12 years. Graduation rates increased among students of color as well. Our district does not just serve upper income students; many of our schools have free and reduced breakfast and lunch populations of over 60%. In addition, over 90 different languages are spoken at our schools. We are proud of our accomplishments but are concerned that budget cuts could cause us to lose this momentum. The Co-Chairs budget framework would require the Beaverton School District to reduce services to kids by approximately \$28 million this year. The only way to make a reduction of this magnitude is to reduce the number of teachers, classified staff and other support personnel. \$28 Million you see is the equivalent of 280 teachers. Just imagine what kind of impact a staff reduction of this magnitude will have on our children.

Over the last few years we have intentionally focused our investments on some key initiatives that we know make a difference for kids such as: 1) Future Ready programs that focuses on digital learning and allows students to experience the latest in technology and 2) AVID where students learn the Cornell note taking methods and other class management strategies. Programs like these not only target at risk populations and gives them skills they need to succeed but enhances educational opportunities for all students.

As an elected school board member I urge you to go back to the drawing board and find a way to raise the revenue needed to fulfill the promise we've made for our kids. Thank you

Hello and thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today.

My name is Keith Chapman. I work for **VIGOR**, in the division previously known as **OREGON IRON WORKS**. I am an engineer, not a public speaker. I did write a very nice speech for today, but then I cut it down to 2 minutes so all that's left is hyperbole.

At VIGOR we build awesome stuff; big complex things out of metal. Locks and dams; bridges; buildings; equipment for the nuclear power industry; we've built streetcars and planes and even a submarine. We're building stealth boats for our Navy seals. Like I said: Awesome stuff!

Almost all of our customers are out of state; many are in other countries. We export products, we import money to Oregon. But our industry is suffering. **Our number one obstacle to growth is inability to hire talented craftsmen.** This is the result of decades of messaging to children that "Success" in life is a college degree and a white collar desk job.

I have a college degree and a white collar desk job and 20 years of experience, and there are craftsmen in our shop younger than me that make more money than me. And they are worth every penny. We are not talking about menial labor. These are advanced manufacturing jobs that require exceptional levels of skill. Maybe one person in a hundred is born with the raw talent to excel at this kind of work.

We need your help to find and train those individuals. This effort will require a many pronged approach, but I'm here today specifically to ask you to fund the **Oregon Manufacturing Innovation Center** (or OMIC). The OMIC Training Center's mission is to provide exactly the kind of trained skilled craftsmen that we need.

When it comes to skilled craftsmanship, Industry has not been well served by academia. Central to this issue is investment in teachers and facilities. Craft can only be taught by craftsmen. OMIC needs the very best craftsmen to be successful in training the next generation of skilled workers. We pay the best craftsmen over \$100 grand a year to work in our shop. You do the math.

And not to put too fine a point on it, but YES, I am actively encouraging you to poach our best talent. Pay them enough to lure them away and make teachers out of them. And then return that talent to us a few years from now as a crop of highly skilled young people who will carry this industry forward for OREGON.

I'm asking you to invest in our industry; it's only fair that you get to see what you'll be investing in. So I invite you to come tour our shop. It would be my pleasure to show off the awesome things we make, and I promise you will leave there believing that **together we can build anything**. Thank you for your time!

Testimony prepared for the Oregon Joint Ways & Means Committee hearing, Portland Community College – Sylvania Campus – February 11, 2017

Co-Chair Nathanson, Co-Chair Devlin, and Members of the Committee - for the record, my name is Mike Johnson. I'm the Director of Student Financial Aid & Scholarships at Portland State University. I've been a financial aid administrator for 28 years, 26 of those years in Oregon.

I'm here to add my voice to those who are asking that the legislature allocate **\$100 million in additional funding to the Public University Support Fund**. Doing so will allow us to provide the kind of higher education that will make Oregon students successful.

Portland State enrolls about 28,000 students. About 18,000 of them receive some kind of financial aid, and about 40% of the undergraduates are needy enough to receive Federal Pell Grants – that's a large percentage compared to similar institutions. Full-time, Oregon resident, Federal Pell Grant recipients need an additional \$19,000 to \$24,000 each academic year to cover their education-related costs. Federal Direct Loans can cover only about one-third to one-half of those costs.

Instead of focusing on Portland State in my remarks, though, I'd like to provide a philosophical and historical perspective about the need for adequate higher education funding. Higher education is a public good. People who have participated in higher education tend to make healthier life choices, vote in greater numbers, and participate more actively in the economy. I think we all know that, but when faced with budget constraints and competing priorities, it's easy to lose sight of it.

In 1946, President Harry S Truman had higher education as a public good firmly in mind when he created the **President's Commission for Higher Education**. He asked Dr. George Zook, president of the American Council on Education, to serve as chair, and he charged the Commission with evaluating the state of higher education in the U.S., and recommending improvements. The resulting six-volume report was entitled ***Higher Education for American Democracy***. It recommended a greatly expanded federal government role in ensuring access to college for all citizens who could benefit – regardless of age, gender, race, or national origin – and with a special emphasis on providing funding to students from low-income families to help not just with tuition, but with books, living expenses, and other educational costs.

It took almost 20 years for the merits of that recommendation to be debated and refined, and to find expression in the **Higher Education Act of 1965**, which established grant, work, and loan programs for the neediest college students. The 1960s and 70s were a "golden age" of federal grant funding for students that allowed college access for many who could not otherwise have considered attending college

Starting in the 1980s, federal funding priorities for college students began to shift: financial aid eligibility – to which tax benefits were added – was extended to students from higher income families, the buying power of federal grants didn't keep pace with rising college costs, and loans became

Thank you committee members. *for this opp*

My name is Patrick Story and I volunteer with the citizen's advocacy group Tax Fairness Oregon. We're sometimes called a "watchdog" because our motto is "We read the bills and follow the money." Nobody ever said that would be easy, but now it has become alarming.

Since our founding in 2003, state legislators have accumulated over 830 million dollars in the biennium budget for business tax breaks, including for some of the world's most profitable corporations. Now that there is a 1.8 billion dollar budget deficit, we are working harder than ever, in the spirit of our Oregon values, to protect funding for public education and for our most essential social services.

Therefore we ask you not to pass any new business tax breaks this session. Please tell the following to anyone asking for new tax breaks: You must identify and win a source of funding, whether it's finding new revenue somewhere, or else ending an existing tax break.

Finally, there are already at least five bills currently before you that would make the estate tax more generous to the wealthy. We ask you not to pass any of those.

And so, in conclusion: Committee members: We implore you: please maintain discipline this session. No new tax breaks! Thank you.

TERRY PARKER
P.O. BOX 13503
PORTLAND, OREGON 97213-0503

**Subject: Testimony to the State of Oregon Legislature Joint Committee on Ways and Means,
February 11, 2017**

Hundreds of millions of dollars are being spent in Portland and throughout Oregon to accommodate bicycling. In Portland's 20-year Transportation System Plan, there is over 800 million dollars of proposed spending for bicycle infrastructure. Outside of Portland, sections of the Historic Columbia River Gorge Highway are also being restored, but for bicyclists, not cars.

A reality check is needed. The social engineering must end. Motorists must no longer be viewed as cash cow ATMs that pay for alternative mode infrastructure. Any transportation funding package must be balanced with an equal distribution of privileges and burdens that include license, registration and/or user fees assessed on adult bicyclists. With a minimum charge of \$60.00 or more a year, any excuse the fee will be eaten up in administrative costs is a deception and no longer valid.

There are also bills in the pipeline that are more about social engineering than about raising revenue. One of those bills is HB 2877. This is what I call a big "D" bill - dictatorial, divisive and discriminative. The bill would place a ridiculous and excessive tax on automobiles over 20 years old. It smacks of discrimination towards low income people that can't afford a new car, senior citizens that often have older cars and people that don't drive a lot and therefore have low mileage older cars. This bill needs to find the big "R", the round file.

In addition to eliminating all practices that include spending or taxing for social engineering purposes, and adding taxes to those who have been hiding behind the social engineering scenario, the legislature needs to tackle the elephant in the room as part of its budget balancing act. It can't be ignored and you can't be passé about it. My suggestion here is to look at ways to add taxes to PERS benefits. It is a form of income. Such a move would be no different than the contract I thought I had with state under Measure 5. Yet, with renters voting yes on bond measures they don't have to pay for, the property taxes on my home have gone up and up and excessively through the roof.

Finally, I keep hearing about getting the money out of politics. Yet whether the money comes from individuals, unions, small business or large corporations, it all comes from people or groups of people expressing their freedom of speech. Thinking outside the box, what makes sense here is for the state to get a piece of this freedom of speech by taxing the donations received by political campaigns. To my way of surmising, this is no different than the tax dollars that are needed to pay for police protection and overtime when protesters are expressing their freedom of speech. Maybe it can be called the protest tax.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Parker
Northeast Portland

Geoff Humnicut • Magnet Academy



Jenny Cavarino
6605 SW Essex Court
Wilsonville, OR 97070
House District 26
503-869-4793

Good afternoon, I would like to thank the Joint Ways and Means Committee for coming out today for this public hearing.

My name is Jenny Cavarino and I am a mother of three children from Wilsonville Oregon, house district 26. I am here today on behalf of my eldest son Christian, and to ask that you take my testimony into consideration as you make budget cut decisions that would impact Developmental Disability Services at the Department of Human Service. Any budget cuts in this area would directly affect my son's quality of a whole life.

As I understand it there are four areas that the Ways and Means Committee is considering making cuts to when it comes to Developmental Disability Funding.

- Case Management
- Direct Support Professionals (DSP's)
- Fairview Housing Trust
- Family to Family Networks

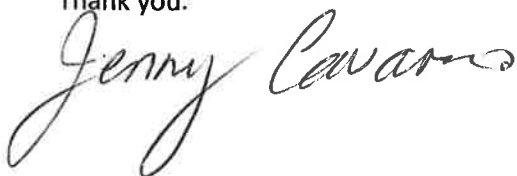
My son and our family over the last 10 years accessed all four of these areas. They have directly impacted Christian's life for the better.

Just as you and I deserve the right to choose where we live, what kind of a job that we are employed in and what community activities and hobbies we are a part of, so does Christian. However for Christian because of his disability this requires supports to be in place that the Department of Developmental Disability Services provide.

Christian uses case management services to oversee his Medicaid funding. He has Direct Support Providers that help him be independent and have access to his community. Christian will be starting a job this month in his local community with a car dealership. He will be utilizing Supported Employment in the form of a job coach at his job. Our Family has used Fairview Trust Funds to make home modifications that kept him safe and in our home. Our local Family Network provides support and ways for our family to connect with other families that also have a child with a disability.

Please think of our family and families that are like ours when you look to making cuts to developmental disability services.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jenny Cavarino". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name and "Thank you." text.

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Everyone deserves to be a part of their community.

People with Intellectual / Developmental Disabilities are most successful in their communities when they can access a variety of services that embrace the diversity of people's needs and goals across their lifespan. Yet budget cuts are jeopardizing the diversity of the Oregon I/DD system leaving it unable to meet the needs of people with I/DD.

The Oregon I/DD Coalition believes that for Oregonians with I/DD to be members of their communities, Oregon must properly fund Direct Support Professionals, housing options, family networks and case management.

Continued Service Funding Levels:

Make Oregon stronger by continuing to invest in supports for Oregonians with Intellectual / Developmental Disabilities to live and work in their communities.

Direct Support Professionals:

Fund a living wage to stabilize the DSP workforce that keeps citizens with I/DD healthy and safe while they live, learn, work and age in our communities.

Family to Family Networks:

Fund the regional Family to Family Networks to strengthen families and communities as they work together to build sustainable support systems.

Case Management:

Fund I/DD case management at 95% equity so that Oregonians with I/DD can remain safe and supported at home, work and in the community.

Fairview Housing Trust:

Keep the promise of affordable, safe and accessible housing for people with I/DD by fully funding the Fairview Trust.



Family-to-Family Networks

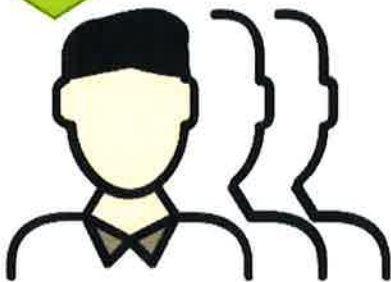
Family Perspective:

Our Family Network has changed our son's life by showing us that anything is possible. We have higher expectations for his future!



Case Manager Perspective:

Sometimes services alone aren't the answer. The ability for me to connect a family with another family is invaluable.



Continue to fund Family to Family Networks.

Family Networks are connected with more than 10,000 families and community partners.

Families raising children with IDD are less isolated and have a stronger vision for the future when they are connected with peers and their local communities.

Greater connection and empowerment creates stronger families and stronger communities across Oregon!

A small investment that makes a big difference for children & families.

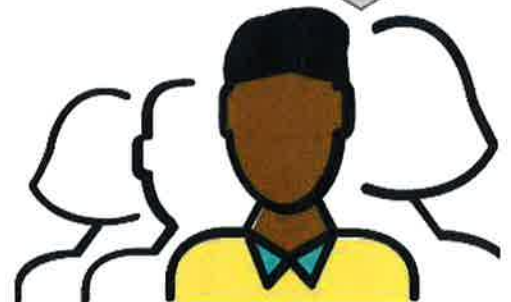
Community Partner Perspective:

By collaborating with the Family Network, we are better able to leverage our resources to provide support to families.



Family Perspective:

We felt isolated and overwhelmed until we received support and information from our local Family to Family Network.



Everyone deserves to be a part of their community.

People with Intellectual / Developmental Disabilities are most successful in their communities when they can access a variety of services that embrace the diversity of people's needs and goals across their lifespan.

DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL (DSP) WAGES

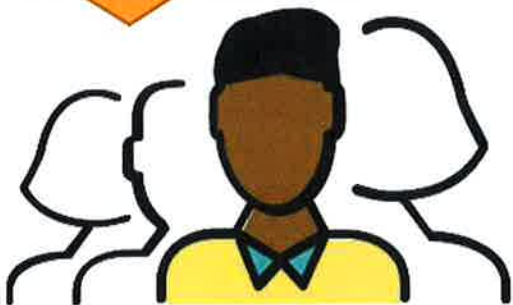
Provider Perspective:

We want to provide services that keep people healthy and safe, but cannot do that with wages too low to keep staff.



DSP Perspective:

I love supporting people to live safe and full lives in their communities, but I can't afford to do it and support my family.



Fund a living wage to stabilize the DSP workforce that supports Oregonians with I/DD to be healthy and safe while they live, learn, work and age in our communities.

Many DSPs cannot afford to stay.

Turnover and workforce shortages jeopardize the health and safety of Oregonians with I/DD.

Important Data

- ✓ 1,400 open DSP positions exist
- ✓ DSPs work overtime to cover vacancies.
- ✓ \$11.23/hour average wage for DSPs.

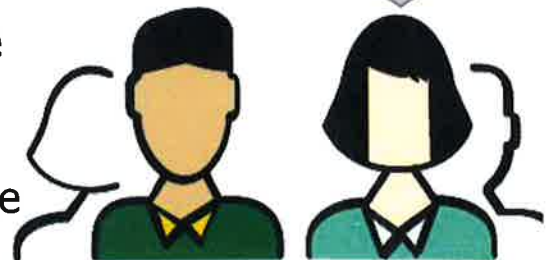
Self-Advocate Perspective:

Using support services is very personal. It takes time to build trust and it is hard when DSPs change so often.



Family Perspective:

When agencies are unable to keep or hire staff, the service quality goes down and our family member suffers.



Everyone deserves to be a part of their community.

People with Intellectual / Developmental Disabilities are most successful in their communities when they can access a variety of services that embrace the diversity of people's needs and goals across their lifespan.

CASE MANAGEMENT

CDDP / Brokerage Perspective:

Increasing workloads and decreasing budgets mean we have less time to support people to live full lives in their communities.



Continue to fund I/DD case management at 95% equity so that Oregonians with I/DD can remain safe and supported at home, work and in the community.

Community Developmental Disabilities Services (CDDP) and Support Services Brokerages coordinate services to help people with IDD live their lives to the fullest.

Self-Advocate Perspective:

When case managers are asked to do more with less, it impacts when and if I get the supports I need when I need them.



Case Manager Perspective:

Without time to get to know someone, it is hard to connect them with services so they can be independent, healthy and safe.



Oregon saves significant money by contracting case management to these organizations instead of doing the work directly.

All 26,000 people receiving IDD Services in Oregon are served through one of the 34 CDDPs or 14 Support Services Brokerages.

Family Perspective:

If my child's case manager is overloaded, they cannot help me navigate the best services for my family.



Everyone deserves to be a part of their community.

People with Intellectual / Developmental Disabilities are most successful in their communities when they can access a variety of services that embrace the diversity of people's needs and goals across their lifespan.



State Budget Town Hall Testimony

Teri Mills

February 11, 2017

Co-Chairs Devlin and Nathanson and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on Oregon's budget framework proposal. My name is Teri Mills and I am a Nurse Educator working right here at PCC. I am here on behalf of the Oregon Nurses Association- representing over 14,000 registered nurses working in every healthcare setting imaginable.

Our state's funding crisis is caused by the choice Oregon has made in continuing to have the lowest corporate taxes in the country. We now have a new choice: Ask Oregon's largest corporations to pay their fair share in taxes, or cut the vital programs that so many of our patients and community members rely on.

I am concerned the proposed budget framework could cause 355,000 Oregonians to lose access to the Oregon Health Plan and reduce vital nurse-led public health safety net programs. I am concerned that cuts will negatively impact Oregon's 17 community college nursing programs that rely on state funding to support their mission of providing a quality, comprehensive education to meet the demand for Oregon's future nursing workforce. I am concerned for Oregon's seniors who live in poverty, whom my students often care for, and who are only able to return home after hospitalization because of programs like OR Project Independence. And I am even more than concerned for the families I personally know who are raising children with disabilities, like the Rogers family in Roseburg whose 3.5 year old daughter, Gloria, is afflicted with cerebral palsy and depend on the Oregon K Plan so she can receive quality care at home.

We as a society will be judged by the way we care for our most vulnerable citizens, the young and the elderly. You as leaders have the choice to find meaningful ways to raise revenue this session and continue funding for these essential services. This includes asking corporations to pay their fair share in taxes. As a registered nurse, I strongly urge you to take action this session to make sure that those who need our help the most receive the services they often desperately need. Thank you.

Oregon ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS DIRECTORS

OACCD

*Executive Board
Members*

Steve Berger
OACCD President,
Washington County
Community Corrections

Jeff Wood
OACCD Vice President,
Marion County
Community Corrections

Kiki Parker-Rose
OACCD Secretary,
Klamath County
Community Corrections

Ted Smietana
OACCD Treasurer,
Yamhill County
Community Justice

Chris Hoy
OACCD Past President,
Clackamas County
Community Corrections

*Committed To, And
Value, Offender
Reformation,
Services to Victims,
Crime Prevention,
And Community
Restoration*

www.oaccd.net

GOVERNORS BALANCED BUDGET TRIGGERS COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS OPT-OUT

Oregon Legislative Assembly's budget-writing Joint Ways and Means Committee, my name is Steve Berger and I am the Director of Washington County Community Corrections. I am here today to speak on behalf of the Oregon Association of Community Corrections Directors (OACCD). Thank you for the opportunity to meet with you today.

I wish to relay the success of SB1145, created during the 1995 Legislative Session, as evidenced statewide in many ways through effective local programs, cost effective interventions, and sanctions. The community corrections system that has grown as a result of SB 1145 has two critical benefits for the state. First, our system improves public safety by lowering recidivism, which means fewer victims of crime in our communities. Second, we save taxpayers money both through improved public safety outcomes, and cost avoidance: Oregon's Community Corrections system reduces our use of more expensive prison and jails, reserving prison for the most serious offenders, while still keeping the community safe.

The Governors Balanced Budget does not provide current service level funding for community corrections and triggers the opt-out clause within SB 1145.

Today I am asking you to fully fund of Community Corrections because of our public safety track record, and remind the committee, we are one of the few systems you can support that we know will save the state money in these budget strained times. We also ask you to consider the unintended consequences and costs associated with a funding reduction in triggering Opt-Out discussions in counties across the state.

Community Corrections Funding:

- The \$239 million allocated in Governor's proposed budget for Community Corrections 1145 funding triggers the Opt-Out.
- \$272 million required to avoid the Opt-Out based upon October forecast.
- The proposed reductions would directly impact positions and programming provided by Community Correction departments across the State.
 - Would reduce the number of people receiving community supervision and wraparound services.

150 N First Ave Suite 200
Hillsboro, Oregon 97124
(503) 846-3703

Steve Berger Steven_Berger@co.washington.or.us

Oregon ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS DIRECTORS

Justice Reinvestment Initiative: Continue Funding

- Since 2014, around the State Community Corrections agencies have been working with public safety partners to invest Justice Reinvestment dollars into programs to keep people out of prison. Services include:
 - Supervision
 - Drug and alcohol treatment
 - Mental health services
 - Housing
 - Educational assistance
 - Employment training
 - Mentoring
 - Parenting
- JRI represents a renewed commitment that had been absent for years. For some counties, JRI money has meant the opportunity to reinvest in programs that had been cut due to years of budget shortfalls.
- Despite receiving less than was asked for during the last legislative session, JRI has reduced use of prisons.
- Results are showing JRI works:
 - A statewide analysis done in 2015 shows that from December 2013 to December 2015 ninety-five percent (95%) of Short Term Transitional Leave (STTL) were successfully completed.
 - An outcomes report completed by Multnomah County in November 2016 showed that offenders on supervision in that county's Justice Reinvestment program had similar or better recidivism rates than offenders in the pre-Justice Reinvestment comparison group.
- JRI has proven to be the most successful in the counties where the public safety partners, including victims' advocates and the business community, have come together and agreed on programs and plans, providing opportunities for a new way of doing business where public safety partners, come together to collaborate.

150 N First Ave Suite 200

Hillsboro, Oregon 97124

(503) 840-5703

Steve Berger Steven_Berger@co.washington.or.us

Oregon ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS DIRECTORS

- Partners are working in new ways to bring important programs and services together to create a comprehensive system that will increase public safety, reduce future victimization, and save taxpayer dollars.
- While the women's population is increasing and causing a conversation about the need to open OSP, several counties are able to work together as a result of JRI to find alternatives to placement in their counties to prevent OSP from having to house women. Before JRI, this collaboration would have been more difficult.

*150 N First Ave Suite 200
Hillsboro, Oregon 97124
(503) 846-3703*

Steve Berger Steven_Berger@co.washington.or.us

February 11, 2017

TO: Members of the Oregon House Ways and Means Committee

FROM: Mary Kinnick, Resident of SE Portland

Dear Committee Members,

In advance thank you for traveling to different regions of the State to hear citizen concerns about and ideas related to how we meet the challenge of the large revenue shortfall. I'll say in advance that I strongly support increasing the level of the corporate tax, a tax that is currently one of the lower rates in the nation.

If we do not fill the \$1.8 billion gap, the most vulnerable among us will be greatly harmed. I am particularly concerned about the impact on the level of support for Human Resources, including healthcare and even more particularly strengthening our currently broken foster care system.

Our family took in a foster care young girl who eventually was adopted by my parents. After running away from 11 different placements Toni remained with us. Her goals changed dramatically, ones that included completing a 4-yr. degree. College completion rates among those in foster care are one of the lowest if not the lowest among all demographic groups. Of course we need more individuals to step up and offer their homes for foster care kids. But we also desperately need more human services staff, individuals who can make sure our foster kids are placed in safe environments. I myself would be willing to pitch in some funds specifically targeted at expanding our service capacity for these children.

I urge you to find additional sources of revenue. Oregon needs to be a place that demonstrates its care for the most vulnerable among us and is prepared for even more dire conditions that may result from actions by the new administration in Washington, D.C.

Thanks for considering my concerns.

Mary Kinnick
5857 SE Yamhill St.
Portland, OR 97215
503-287-6959
marykinnick@gmail.com



Testimony of Steve Carter
Oregon Legislature Ways & Means Committee
Feb. 11, 2017

Good afternoon. My name is Steve Carter. I live in Southwest Portland and I am here today as a volunteer with AARP to ask you to please maintain services for Oregon seniors and people with disabilities.

I know you all face a very difficult budget picture this session, with potential cuts to many, many important state-funded services, including schools and health care.

I want, however, for you to think about the people of Oregon who depend on programs for senior citizens and the disabled, many of whom cannot function without steady, reliable help. I can think of several elderly folks on my street who would not be able to stay in their homes without caregivers' help with cleaning, food delivery, bathing – the everyday things we take for granted.

The budget for seniors and people with disabilities support thousands upon thousands of people like my neighbors. Oregon is a leader in finding ways to keep people living independently as long as possible, but it's not as if we are showering state funds on these programs as it is – Project Independence, which helps keeps seniors in their homes instead of expensive assisted living, serves about 1,000 people in Oregon. There are more than 17,000 people in the state eligible for these services.

These programs for the elderly and the disabled make economic sense. Keeping people who need help in their homes is a lot cheaper than placing them in assisted living or nursing homes. And it maintains their dignity, their choice and their independence.

Again, I know you have difficult decisions ahead of you. But you have choices as legislators – choices on which programs to support, and choices on general spending and revenue. It's clear that we have a terrible imbalance between spending and resources in Oregon. It's time to find a way to raise the resources we need to take care of our citizens – from preschoolers to the elderly and our disabled citizens

Thank you.

Steve Carter
4221 SW Comus St.
Portland, OR 97219
503-452-1607
stevenncarter@comcast.net

February 11, 2017

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

My name is Jennifer Schuberth. I am a parent of two young children and I have worked in education most of my career, including as an assistant professor at Portland State University for five years. I taught many students who came from Oregon high schools and community colleges and many of them simply weren't prepared to do college level work.

You all know the graduation numbers and test scores. I don't need to remind you.

I'm here asking you to increase my taxes and taxes on corporations because I know that education takes time. I know, from being a teacher and a parent, that learning requires expertise, but it also requires relationships and the time it takes to form those relationships. We need to give our students and teachers more time---more time to plan, to try out ideas with people you trust, to fail, to do it again. That's how learning works and you can't cut corners.

Money isn't going to solve our education problem, but it's a start because it will give our students and teachers the breathing room to engage one another as thoughtful human beings who all have a stake in the future of Oregon.

Sincerely,



Dr. Jennifer Schuberth

TO: Oregon Joint Ways & Means Committee
FROM: Becky Bard
DATE: February 11, 2017
RE: Closing the opportunity gap by reading with SMART (Start Making A Reader Today)

Co-Chairs Nathanson and Devlin, members of the committee, my name is Becky Bard and I am one of over 350 volunteer Site Coordinators for SMART (Start Making A Reader Today). I work with the Hayhurst Elementary SMART program in southwest Portland. In this capacity, I recruit and coordinate more than 50 volunteers who are helping 59 children learn to love to read. I also work with student teachers from Portland State University, I was previously a Literacy Specialist in the Tigard-Tualatin School District, and have taught in elementary schools in Tigard, Lake Oswego, and Portland.

SMART is an important resource for children, providing the two ingredients essential to reading development: one-on-one reading time, and access to books. Right now in Multnomah County, SMART is serving nearly 1,700 students in 45 sites with the help of over 980 volunteers, and gives students 2,200 books each month. For some students, the books they receive from us are the very first they'll ever own. Statewide, SMART will serve 10,500 students this year thanks to 5,000 volunteers, and will give away over 162,000 books.

For our students from low-income families, SMART's support is especially critical as research tells us these students face a greater hill to climb when it comes to reading achievement and other benchmarks. Statewide, nearly 90 percent of SMART's sites are Title I elementary schools or Head Start programs, focusing on low-income and other under-served populations to help narrow the education gap that exists between these students and their more affluent peers.

I am asking for your support for a continuation of the \$500,000 funding allocation SMART has received in the past two legislative biennia to support our children and services across Oregon. An allocation of \$500,000 will support nearly 1,700 students in SMART. Investing in SMART means investing in a proven strategy helping to narrow the education gap in Oregon.

Thank you for your consideration.

As both a parent and Personal Support Worker Specialist (PSW) I have a unique window into how cuts will affect our community. Personally, I gave up a college education in science to be home with my special needs son.

When my son was assigned our first PSW I didn't know what to expect. The patience with my son eventually resulting in him leaving the house. Before the PSW we couldn't get him to go anywhere. It is a very slow progress for him but we are grateful for progress. He looks forward to his time with the PSW. There was a positive impact on our family as well. For the first time in over a decade I could work outside of the home. My son's PSW suggested I work in this field because he recognized the experience and patience needed to be successful. I also not only had experience with my son, but I had taken special education classes in college.

My husband and I were able to experience what all parents should – some personal freedom as your child becomes an adult. Parents without children with special needs get to live their life without the worry of caring for their child once they reach 18. I still worry about my son but I can be part of the community because I know and trust the PSW coming to my home to work with my son.

As a PSW I have experienced so many successes with my clients. I will only discuss one for now. The gentleman I am referring to was living at home. His father had died recently and he wanted to be independent. We were able to find a place to live for him. With my supports he is able to pay his bills and access the community. We recently went to a food bank to pick up food. With my support he was able to get enough food for a few weeks, but without my assistance he would not have been able to go to the other side of Portland and carry that much back on a bus. The cost of my support is about 1/3 of what it would cost for him to be in a group home, which he would qualify for.

Support workers are saving money if you look at the big picture. Many more parent s would have to put their kids in expensive group homes, including adult children such as my son.

Deborah Hamar

PSW Specialist

503-970-6569

— North Clackamas School District — Oregonians Want More from Our Schools, Not Less*

**According to Oregon Rising, a 2016 survey of 10,894 Oregonians.*

The decision legislators make about Oregon's 2017-19 K-12 budget will have a significant, lasting impact on **North Clackamas School District** students.



Progress Toward
Quality Education



Stable, Some Progress



Maintains Current Programs



Governor's Proposed Budget

\$
8.02
BILLION

\$
8.40
BILLION

\$
8.93
BILLION

\$
9.97
BILLION

Cuts

This funding level would require North Clackamas Schools to make over \$10 million in reductions to avoid deficit spending. These reductions would impact all students - especially our most vulnerable student learners by increasing class sizes, reducing or eliminating intervention programs, and reducing educational options that support the education of the whole child. Consequences of this funding level could include:

- Cutting teachers / staff - equivalent to 100 teaching positions resulting in escalating class sizes, or
- Cutting 19 instructional days which reduces employees' salaries and valuable student instructional time, or
- A combination of the above and other reductions, such as the elimination of curriculum adoptions that are planned to replace learning materials that are over 15 years old, and eliminating or reducing elective programs

Fewer Cuts

This level of funding would require North Clackamas Schools to make over \$5 million of reductions to avoid deficit spending. Consequences of this funding level could include:

- Cutting teachers / staff - equivalent to 50 teaching positions resulting in escalating class sizes, or
- Cutting 10 instructional days which reduces employees' salaries and valuable student instructional time, or
- A combination of the above and other reductions, such as the elimination of curriculum adoptions that are planned to replace learning materials that are over 15 years old, and eliminating or reducing elective programs

Progress

Even at this funding level, North Clackamas Schools would maintain current, already-reduced service levels and sustain student achievement and program gains made since 2014. Consequences of this funding level includes:

- Maintaining current class sizes that still remain higher than 2009
- Maintaining current program offerings and intervention programs
- Maintaining current instructional minutes

Quality

At this funding level, North Clackamas Schools would see additional investments in key educational programs that would lead to improved achievement and graduation rates. The impact of this funding level includes:

- Lower class sizes across all schools
- Highly trained teachers and administrators for all students
- Expanding instructional hours for all students
- Expansion of intervention programs to ensure the academic success of each student
- Expansion of counselors and social services to all schools
- Expanded elective and CTE options



oregon-rising.org

Thank you for giving us the
opportunity to testify today.

PSU student

Bo Roering

Co-chairs Devlin & Nathanson,
Members of the committee,

Thank you on behalf of Portland
State University, for the chance
to speak to you on this funding
issue. We support you no matter
what.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paul Bush". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the main body of text.

Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony. I am currently a student at Portland State University carrying \$40,000 in student loan debt. I am fearful that with a substantial decrease in funding for higher education I will be forced to incur more debt. I aspire to have a career in public service and I am fearful I will ever find employment needed to pay my debt.

Please invest \$100 million to keep tuition affordable.

Thank you,

Melissa Pyle
melissa.pyle - mel.pyle@pdx.edu
971-409-3026

Co Chair Devlin, Co Chair Nathanson
and Members of the Committee,
Thank you for giving me
an opportunity to speak on
behalf of my University.
We are asking for at least
an additional 100 million to
public universities to support
the services needed to
ensure the success of every
student. Once again thank
you for your time. Tanya B

Co-chairs Devlin and Nathanson,

I would like to thank you and the members of the committee for hearing our testimony in support of the Public University Support Fund. I understand that we are just one of many groups seeking funding, but in the event that you are unable to increase the funding to our requested levels, that you do not decrease it any further.

Sincerely,
Stephen Dickerson

Co-Chairs Devlin & Nathanson

I am writing you to support higher education services by funding a wide array of meaningful and impactful programs through a \$100M request. Without this funding rising tuition costs will continue to put education out of the reach of Oregonians.



Dear Good People,

Thank you for your time and
patience in listening to the
pleas of our community. It is hoped
that you strongly consider the realities
of your constituency. Our student
veterans need and deserve
your support.

Best
C. L. L. L.
S. L. L.
PSU - Director

Thank you Co-Chair Devlin
Co-Chair Nathansen, and
Members of the Committee.

Thank you very much for the
opportunity to discuss these very
important topics with you.
Without your help we can't make
any progress.

Co-chairs Devlin & Nathanson,
& members of the Committee:

Thank you for providing
this opportunity for
community interaction, and
for listening to our
concerns. Please consider
investing an additional \$100M
in higher education to
maintain current service levels.
Handwritten

Co-Chairs Devlin & Nathanson and members of
the committee,

Please prioritize funding for higher education. Oregon's
investment lags far behind other states and our
current and future workforce suffers because of it.

Funding higher education at \$100 million merely
prevents large tuition increases. Without that level,
students will pay more, making higher ed unattainable
for many. But even more is needed. Ultimately, you
need to find more revenue. In the meantime, prioritize
investing in education to create the future workforce,
which will be your taxpayers. Sincerely,

Aranda Lamb, MPA

2/11/2017

Co-chair Mathanson, Co-chair Devlin, and members of
the Joint Ways & Means Committee,

Thank you for ^{your} interest in hearing from your
constituents about what programs are essential
to keeping Oregon a vital, sustainable, enjoyable
place to live. My area, higher education, is a
public good well worthy of state funding.

I wish you the best as you make important decisions
about all of our futures.

Mike Johnson, PSU

2/11/2017

Dear co-chairs,

Thank you so much for listening to all the stories
of our PSU students, faculty and staff.

We hope that you will invest in state
higher education and allow the dreams of
my Oregonians to achieve college education.

Thank you so much!

Leena Shrestha

Academic & Career Adviser
Portland State University

Dear Co-Chair Devlin & Co-Chair Nathanson and
members of the Ways & Means Committee,

Thank you so much for the opportunity to
testify on behalf of higher education. We hope
that you will invest in the additional \$100 million
to the Public University Support Fund, to help us
prevent tuition increases.

I have personally had to choose between eating
dinner or meeting tuition bills. Every dollar that
goes towards higher education allows students to eat
while pursuing higher education. Thank you,
Stett Shao (PSU student & trustee)

Dear Co-Chair Devlin & Co-Chair Nathanson,
I wanted to thank you for going
on the state-wide road show to hear
the concerns of Oregonians.

I am requesting that ^{you} increase
funding by \$100m to the seven
universities in Oregon. The State of
Oregon needs a well educated work
force and the lack of ~~good~~ funding
to the universities is making
a university degree beyond the
means of most families.