

February 27, 2023

House Committee on Early Childhood  
and Human Services



**Re: Support for House Bill 3235**

Chair Reynolds, Vice-Chairs Scharf and Nguyen, and Members of the Committee,

Shix Pachway, Good Afternoon -

My name is Ethan Livermore, I'm Yakama, and the Organizer for the Oregon Economic Justice Roundtable (OEJR), a place for private foundations, financial institutions, community-based organizations, and advocacy groups to share space and discuss what economic and racial justice could and should look like in Oregon. **We urge your support of HB 3235.**

At the OEJR, we seek to root a culture and community in Oregon that nourishes a sense of belonging, respect, and dignity among and between communities and people. To create an environment and systems of abundance by and for communities of color so that all Oregonians live beyond the basics of safety and security and into the freedom to actualize dreams and the power of communities to control their own financial and economic destiny. **HB 3235 will contribute to achieving this vision for all Oregonians.**

Here's why we believe the Oregon Kids' Credit will contribute to economic and racial justice in Oregon:

It Will...

- **Reduce geographic disparities:** We know that it would help children in every county and every corner of Oregon, children in rural Oregon stand to benefit disproportionately.
- **Reduce racial disparities:** We know that while the credit would benefit children of every racial and ethnic group in the state, estimates by the Oregon Center for Public Policy suggest Black, Indigenous, and Latino children would disproportionately benefit.
- **Reduce child poverty:** We know that the The Kids' Credit would bring tens of thousands of Oregon children out of poverty and reduce the share of Oregon children living in poverty by nearly a fifth.

And

- **Help the economy:** The research is clear: low-income families spend far more of the dollars they receive rather than save or invest it. This means the Oregon Kids' Credit will circulate rapidly in our economy, providing continued benefits to small businesses and local communities throughout Oregon.

With your help, we'll be able to ensure that young children and their families have the supports they need to be set up for success and thrive.

**Please support HB 3235.**

Sincerely,

Ethan Livermore

Economic Justice Organizer, The Oregon Economic Justice Roundtable

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