

Submitter: Daniel Jaffee  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means  
Measure: SB5506

Dear members of the Ways and Means committee:

I am writing to urge you in the strongest possible terms to follow Gov. Kotek's proposed budget framework, which would divert additional funds from going into budget reserves and instead use them to fund increases in K-12 and Higher Education spending, as well as on vital social and environmental needs, in the current budget period.

The legislative leadership's Budget Framework currently leaves out critical community-centered investments and policies that Oregonians need now. With historic levels saved in reserves—over \$2 billion—we do not need to set more money aside.

The "rainy day" is right now--it simply unconscionable to cut budgets for state programs and departments when Oregon is about to return \$4 BILLION in Kicker rebates, mostly to wealthy people who do not need it and will not spend it. It is unacceptable to cut any budgets in this context--we already have the means to adequately fund all of these desperately needed investments.

Thank you for your consideration.