

Submitter: Elijah Ocean

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Measure: SB5506

Dear Joint Ways & Means Committee of Oregon,

I urge you to invest in our communities now instead of putting more money into reserves.

The Budget Framework currently leaves out critical community-centered investments and policies that Oregonians need now. With historic levels saved—over \$2 billion—we have the means to rise to the challenges of the day.

We need investments in low and moderate income housing, and related assistance. We need improved controls in place to prevent the working class from figuratively bleeding dry into the coffers of property owners without a shred of equity to their name.

Oregon families cannot wait any longer for investments in our communities and in the future of our state. We must prepare now for any future economic downturn by investing in what gives our communities the opportunity to thrive and reduce demand for services in the future.

Sincerely,
Elijah Ocean