



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Employment Department

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April 30, 2025

The Honorable Representative Dacia Grayber, Chair
The Honorable Representative Lucetta Elmer, Vice-Chair
The Honorable Representative Lesly Muñoz, Vice-Chair
House Labor and Workplace Standards Committee
900 Court Street NE,
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Follow-up information to April 28, 2025, SB 916 Informational Meeting

Dear Chair Grayber and Vice-Chairs Elmer and Muñoz,

We appreciated the opportunity to share information with your committee about the Unemployment Insurance program and potential implementation of SB 916A. We wanted to follow up on a few questions that came up during the hearing.

Vice-Chair Muñoz asked about what percentage of public employers are taxpaying versus reimbursing. The table below shows the percentage of public employers that have elected to be taxpaying, reimbursing, or pay into the Local Government Employers Benefit Trust Fund (LGEETF). LGEETF employers are essentially reimbursing employers, but they use a formula that tries to even out their payments over time. Federal employers are excluded from this analysis.

Public Employers (Total)

Financing Method	Number of Accounts	Percentage
Taxable	375	26.88%
Reimbursable	749	53.69%
LGEETF	271	19.43%
Total	1,395	100.00%

We also have more detailed information about school districts and cities here.

School Districts

Financing Method	Number of Accounts	Percentage
Taxable	1	0.47%
Reimbursable	124	58.22%
LGEETF	88	41.31%
Total	213	100.00%



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Cities

Financing Method	Number of Accounts	Percentage
Taxable	71	31.42%
Reimbursable	82	36.28%
LGEBTF	73	32.30%
Total	226	100.00%

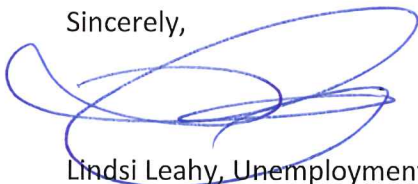
Vice-Chair Elmer asked for data about how much in overpayments the Department has paid out and collected in the recent past, as well as the breakdown of overpayment types.

In calendar year 2024, the Oregon Employment Department (OED) established \$56.1 million in new debt. For comparison, during 2024, OED paid out more than \$807 million in UI benefits and collected approximately \$18 million in UI overpayment debt. This collected debt represents debt owed from 2024 and years prior. While we have many tools available to us to collect on debt, outstanding debt remains an issue for various reasons. These include cases where claimants have no income or assets for OED to garnish and cases where claimants choose to handle their debt through payment plans that take a while to complete, among other situations. We continue to pursue collection of debts for more than a year (the exact period of time depends on the type of overpayment).

Regarding the distribution of the various types of overpayment debt for the most recently completed state fiscal year, approximately 20.3% was non-claimant fault (overpayments not attributable to actions by the claimant), 22.6% was claimant fault (overpayments attributable to action by the claimant), and 57.1% was related to fraud.

We hope this information is helpful. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,



Lindsay Leahy, Unemployment Insurance Division Director
Oregon Employment Department

cc: Erin Seiler, Legislative Policy Research Office Analyst