



Oregon Women's Rights Coalition

HB 3329-Oppose

Chair Nguyen, Vice Chairs Diehl and Isadore and members of the committee:

The Oregon Women's Rights Coalition opposes the increase in the OPIF tax credit in this bill. In fact, we oppose the idea of selling tax credits below face value at all. If the state wants to spend money on this program, then the program needs to ask for funding from Ways and Means. It is possible as noted in the excerpt below from the latest Tax Expenditure report.

ORS 315.516 allows the Legislature to directly appropriate funds to the OPIF in lieu of holding an auction in a future fiscal year. In 2018, HB 4028 amended this statute to allow the Legislature to make this direct appropriation for the current fiscal year, for the difference between the credits sold at auction and the annual maximum, in the event that credits remain unsold when the auction ends.

In this uncertain fiscal climate, we feel those dollars could be spent more effectively on helping those who are struggling to feed their family or put a roof over their head. We feel that those who benefit from using their credits to lower their taxes are not the struggling Oregonians.

Again, from the Tax Expenditure Report.

WHO BENEFITS

Taxpayers with a tax liability who purchase tax credits in an auction, whose proceeds fund the Oregon Production Investment Fund. **At the most recent auction in September of 2023, about 70 taxpayers paid more than \$18.9 million for tax credits with a total value of \$20 million.**

Typically, very few corporations claim this credit each year.

In the previous report they noted that 99 percent of those buying credits had incomes over \$100,000 a year, well above the median household income of \$80,426. There was a tax credit auction in December of 2024, but we are not sure of the results.

If this program is so important then it needs to be funded out of the general fund and not use tax credits.

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