

Ways and Means 04/25/2025

Chairperson and members of the committee,

My name is Paul Landrum, I am from Klamath Falls, have run a successful manufacturing and subcontracting business for many years. Now retired, I am here to address this budget act which I am neutral towards at this point because I have not studied it thoroughly. I have only seen the summary.

I want to encourage your committee to consider an idea as you walk through your planning and decisions.

It has to do with the state providing charity - Social Services and the like.

A lot of money is allocated to and spent on this in our state and country. Mental Health plays a big role in it all.

Thrucharity.us is an organization devoted to charity. They make a lot of sense on how to approach this issue.

They point out that all people should be viewed as unique individuals able to contribute something for what they need.

A one way charity is a disservice to the recipient rather than a source of empowerment. They believe in an "Earn It" model.

There are 5 steps to dependency:

The 1st time is appreciation; the 2nd time is anticipation; the 3rd time they develop expectation; the 4th time they feel entitlement and the 5th time they become dependent.

There are 5 steps to Paternalism that affect the giver:

The 1st time is a sense of exhilaration; the 2nd time is a deepening sense of purpose; the 3rd time begins to feel necessary; then it becomes essential and the giver becomes paternal.

We can avoid a dead end to dependency. Challenge develops and leads to success.

Accountability is necessary.

This all leads to more productive Oregonians while decreasing the budget needs in the long run. Thank you and may God bless you all