

Submitter: Deborah Hynds
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1507

My name is Deborah Hynds, I am a grandparent and ERDC Child Care Provider.

Essential state and federal services that millions of Oregonians rely on are at risk of severe funding cuts due to H.R. 1 and the Trump Administration's agenda. While Oregon faces the loss of billions in federal funds, the wealthiest earners and out-of-state corporations stand to gain massive tax breaks. This is unacceptable for our state and its people.

I support the state disconnecting from the federal tax code because Oregon families and child care providers are sounding the alarm: our state's Employment Related Day Care (ERDC) program is on the brink of collapse. With a projected \$88 million shortfall and the program at risk of shutting down by January 2027 without intervention, the consequences will be catastrophic — not just for working parents, but for our entire economy.

I'm writing to urge lawmakers to use reserve funds to backfill the \$88 million deficit for the Employment Related Day Care Program.

If the ERDC program runs out of funding, the consequences will be immediate and severe: parents will be forced to make impossible choices — such as cutting back on essentials or pulling their children out of care altogether. Childcare providers, many of whom operate on thin margins, will face closures or reduced capacity as families can no longer afford their services. This isn't just a budget line—it's a crisis in the making, one that hits working families hardest and threatens the backbone of our local economy. Child care is integral to our infrastructure and a necessary public investment; it's time we treated it like one.

This ERDC program helps SINGLE PARENTS that don't have any other form of child care or extra money to pay for child care. This is an awesome program. I am 69 and I used it from 1986 -1995. My daughter now uses it since she has a 3 yr old who's father passed away a year ago.

I, Deborah Hynds, support ERDC because as a parent who relies on child care to go to work/ school, I depend on programs like ERDC to subsidize the cost of child care which is now more than the cost of my rent.

It's pouring in Oregon. I urge you to use revenue and reserves to close the \$88 million shortfall for the ERDC program in the Department of Early Learning and Care budget.

Thank you,
Deborah Hynds