

Submitter: Rachel Lytle
On Behalf Of: The Citizens of Oregon
Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SJR201

My name is [Your Name], and I testify in opposition to Senate Joint Resolution 201. While I understand the intent behind reforming Oregon's kicker, SJR 201 represents a fundamental shift that undermines taxpayer rights, fiscal discipline, and constitutional integrity.

The kicker was enshrined in our constitution to ensure that surplus revenue—earned by Oregonians through their hard work—returns to them, not to expand government spending. SJR 201 would divert half of unanticipated revenues above \$300 million away from taxpayers and into state-controlled funds for education and wildfire programs. This is not reform—it is a partial confiscation of taxpayer dollars.

Oregon does not have a revenue problem; it has a spending and accountability problem. The general fund has grown by 77% since 2015. Rather than imposing new spending mandates, we should demand better stewardship of existing resources. Redirecting kicker funds removes a critical check on government growth and reduces incentives for accurate revenue forecasting.

Public opposition is clear: over 140 testimonies have already been submitted against this measure, and a recent poll shows 84% of respondents reject the idea of raiding the kicker. Oregonians value transparency and fiscal responsibility. They know that surplus revenue belongs to the people who earned it.

I urge you to reject SJR 201 and uphold the principle that taxpayers, not politicians, should keep what they earn.