

Submitter: Ciarra Larkin
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SJR201

Dear Oregon Legislators,

I am writing to strongly oppose any effort to redirect or reallocate Oregon's kicker funds away from the taxpayers they belong to.

The kicker is not a slush fund. It is not discretionary revenue for new programs or political projects. It is a constitutional safeguard designed to return excess revenue to the people of Oregon — the very people who overpaid into the system in the first place.

The kicker exists because government revenue exceeded projections. That money does not belong to the Legislature. It belongs to Oregon taxpayers. Attempting to divert it to initiatives that were not voted on, approved, or directly authorized by constituents undermines both the intent of the law and public trust.

Oregonians are already facing high costs of living, rising utility bills, housing instability, and inflation pressures. Returning the kicker to taxpayers is not just legally sound — it is morally responsible.

This state was built on the principle of representation. Government should not repurpose funds meant for the people in order to expand spending priorities that were never part of the original agreement.

The kicker is for the people, by the people. Honor that commitment. Respect the voters. Return the funds as intended.

I urge you to protect the integrity of the kicker and ensure it remains in the hands of Oregon constituents.

Sincerely,
Ciarra Larkin