

Submitter: Karen Chirre
On Behalf Of: Stadium Superette
Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SJR201

Dear Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to SJR201, which proposes to divert the kicker tax refund from taxpayers to fund additional education initiatives in Oregon. While I wholeheartedly believe in the importance of education, I am deeply concerned about the current management of our state's educational funds and the implications of this proposal.

Firstly, Oregon already allocates a significant amount of taxpayer money to education. However, it has become increasingly clear that these funds are not being used effectively. Reports of mismanagement, overspending, and fraud within the educational system have raised serious concerns about how taxpayer dollars are being utilized. Until the state demonstrates a commitment to addressing these issues and managing existing resources more responsibly, it is unjust to ask taxpayers for more funding.

The kicker tax refund represents a critical return of hard-earned money to Oregonians. This financial relief is especially important as our economy faces significant challenges. Many families rely on this refund to support their daily needs, and taking it away would place an additional burden on them during tough economic times.

Moreover, redirecting these funds without a clear plan for accountability and oversight only perpetuates a cycle of inefficiency and waste. We cannot continue to throw money at a system that has not proven it can manage its resources wisely. Instead, I urge our legislators to focus on reforming existing funding structures and ensuring that every dollar spent in education has a meaningful impact on our students and teachers.

In conclusion, I strongly oppose SJR201 and urge you to reconsider this approach. Until the management of educational funds is improved and transparency is prioritized, we should not risk further taxpayer contributions. It's time to hold our educational institutions accountable for their spending and ensure that our money is being used effectively for the benefit of all Oregonians.

Thank you for considering my perspective on this important issue.

Sincerely,

KAREN CHIRRE

Veteran, business and homeowner, community advocate in Stadiumhood