

June 2009

Cuts to schools and services impact all Oregon communities

PTA joins in a shared responsibility to fund schools and protect vulnerable Oregonians

The May revenue forecast has identified the amount of tax dollars available for schools and services. Over 90% of the Oregon state budget goes toward paying for education, public safety and human services.

Due to the financial crisis Oregonians are facing, incomes are down and so are income taxes. Right now, legislators are starting the conversation about how to move the state through this fiscal crisis. They're considering a number of proposals that would require corporations and the wealthiest to carry more of the burden than they currently are, but the discussions have only just begun.

As it stands, the Ways and Means Committee Co-Chairs' proposal makes \$2 billion in cuts to vital services, while only raising \$800 million from corporations and the wealthy. Many of the deep cuts proposed by the co-chairs would devastate human services that people across the state depend on—most notably funding for foster care, childcare subsidies that allow low-income parents to keep their jobs and in-home care for seniors and people with disabilities. All of Oregon's schools will struggle to protect programs, a full school year and teacher and staff jobs with over a half a billion dollars less in K-12 funding.

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United For Oregon March

Sunday, June 7, 11:30am

Starts near OMSI in Portland ends downtown

Join Oregon PTA, Children First For Oregon, AARP, Oregon Education Association, KBOO 90.7, SEIU 503, Jobs With Justice and our Keep Oregon Working Coalition

On May 18, Oregon lawmakers released a proposed budget that contains a whopping **\$2 billion in cuts to education, human services, and public safety.**

Among the hardest hit are seniors and people with disabilities who depend on in-home care, working families who depend on childcare to keep their jobs, low-income families just struggling to make ends meet, and the folks who work hard to provide these services.

Legislators need to hear from you that in these tough economic times, it's unfair and irresponsible to balance the budget on the backs of the people who are already hurting from this fiscal crisis. It's time for corporations and wealthy Oregonians to pay their fair share.

Let's make our voices heard and demand better!

Join a coalition of organizations on Sunday, June 7 for a march and rally in Downtown Portland to voice support for these vital services and fair treatment for the workers who provide them.

Learn more at www.keeporegonworking.org