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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HB 4157: Cost of Living Support Payments

Background: Low-wage workers and communities play an essential role in ensuring Oregon's success. But the cost of living for these workers remains high. The wealth gap has widened since the beginning of the pandemic. Rents continue to rise, childcare remains unaffordable and inaccessible, and healthcare costs remain high throughout this pandemic. Working families need support to keep pace and pay for essential needs, like housing.

This bill will support Oregon's economic recovery and lift up communities across the state by providing one-time payments to over 240,000 Oregonians.

How the bill works:

- **Payments:** A one-time \$600 payment to eligible by check or direct deposit. The amount is not subject to state or federal income tax. No application is necessary.
- **Preliminary cost:** \$147.5 million
- **Eligibility:** Individuals are eligible for payments if they are Oregon residents who claimed the earned income tax credit on their 2020 income

Oregon House District 47 is in Outer East Portland, which sits on the traditional lands of the Multnomah, Kathlamet, Clackamas Bands of the Chinook and many other tribes who made their home along the Columbia and Willamette Rivers. Tribes from this ancestral territory are now part of the Grand Ronde, Siletz, and Warm Springs sovereign nations.

tax returns. Additionally, individuals who file an amended 2020 tax return by April 15, 2022 and claim the EITC will receive this payment.

Agency roles

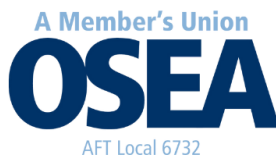
Department of Revenue (DOR)

Existing data from the Department of Revenue on Oregonians who filed for the EITC in the 2020 tax year will determine who receives these one-time cost of living payments. DOR will provide customer service and mailers for the program and develop a list of payment recipients to receive payments for early summer of 2022.

Oregon Worker Relief Fund (OWRF/Seeding Justice)

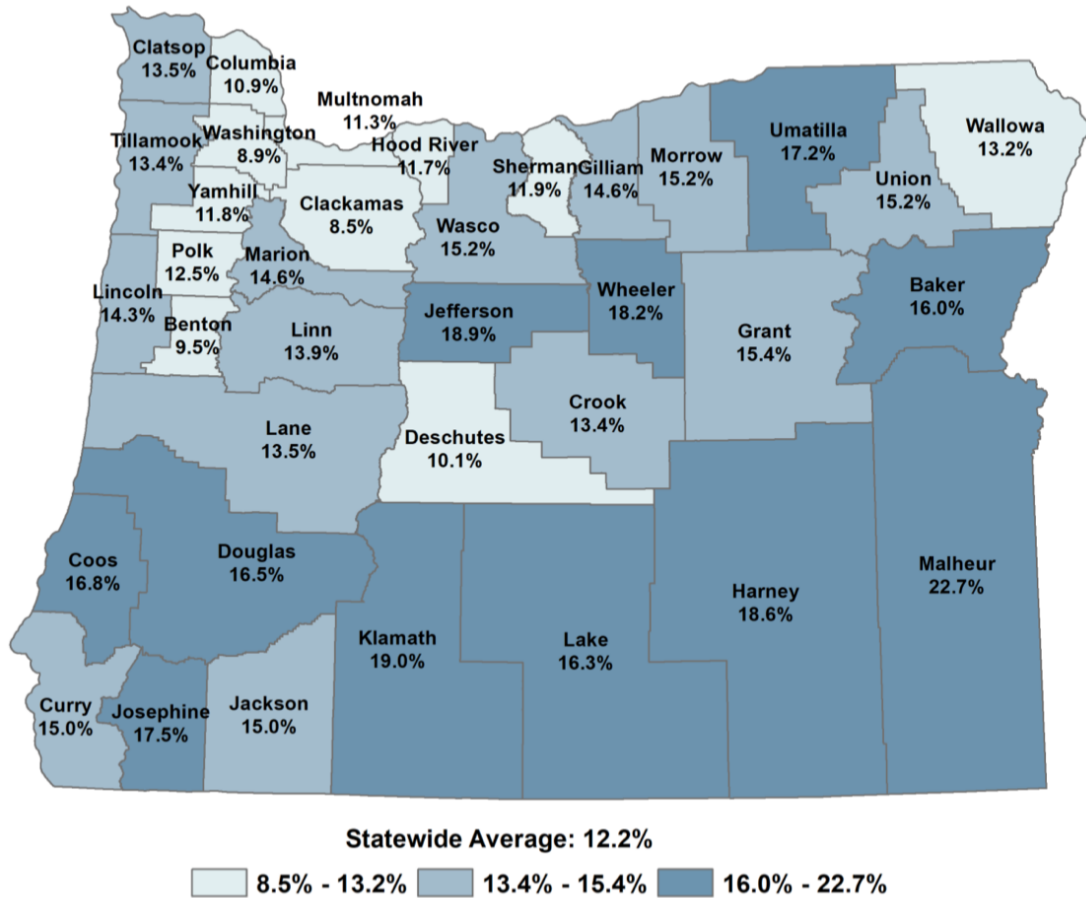
Through HB 5202, a separate budget appropriation was made to the Oregon Worker Relief Fund to distribute payments to ITIN filers who need economic relief but are ineligible for the EITC due to their immigration status. The existing OWRF infrastructure will be used to identify eligible recipients.

HB 4157 is supported by:



Oregon Earned Income Tax Credit by County - Tax Year Preliminary (2020)

Percent of Tax Returns Claiming the Oregon Earned Income Tax Credit by County*



*Based on mailing address at the time return was filed
Research Section, Oregon Department of Revenue, 2/10/2022