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House Democrats Force Schools to Make Budget Cuts, House Republicans Propose Legislation to Fully Fund Education

SALEM, OR – Today, House Republicans attempted to withdraw [House Bill 3627](#) from the House Committee on Rules. This bipartisan legislation proposed by Representative Tracy Cramer (R-Gervais) would [fully fund education](#) at \$10.4 billion. House Bill 3627 mirrored an amendment Representative Cramer introduced in the Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Education that was [voted down](#) by Democrats.

Last night, Democrats proposed an education budget of \$10.2 billion – \$100 million less than the [current statewide education service level](#) of \$10.3 billion.

The Democrats budget would require school districts to make difficult **staffing and budget cuts**, [as recently stated](#) by Superintendent of Portland Public Schools, Guadalupe Guerrero.

“Teachers and administrators have been clear: They need at least \$10.3 billion to continue operating at current service levels. We know inflation will still impact our schools in the next biennium, and we must have sufficient resources to educate our children,” **said Representative Cramer (R-Gervais)**. “I am proud to have voted in support of House Bill 3627 but am disappointed this body chose not to take bold action for our schools, teachers, parents, and students. Democrats are going to force schools to make difficult budget decisions.”

“After three years of the Democratic majority mandating school shutdowns and lowered education standards, Democrats are now proposing an inadequate budget. We know Oregon school performance [has plummeted](#). As we have stated time and again – budgets reflect priorities. We must get back to the basics of reading, writing, and arithmetic and invest in our students now before it is too late. Oregon’s future depends on the success of our students,” **said House Republican Leader Breese-Iverson (R-Prineville)**.

The motion to withdraw the bill failed with 30 votes in support and 29 votes against – just one vote short of the required 31 to withdraw a bill. Five Democrats voted in support of the motion.

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