

**Gary Leif**

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**Committees**

2 Joint Ways & Means Committees  
#1. Transportation and Economic Development  
#2. Public Safety

**OREGON STATE LEGISLATURE**  
900 COURT ST NE SALEM, OREGON 97301

2019-03-14

No Vote - Explanation on HB 2975

I would like to explain my “NO” vote position on HB2975.

I voted “NO” on this so-called budget program rebalancing bill. HB 2975, which passed over bipartisan opposition, is a direct attack on the constitutionally protected kicker, returning dollars to Oregon taxpayers.

It is another example of the lack of transparency that has plagued the current session. By shifting funds into the next biennium, it removes \$108 million from the kicker, money that would have been returned to Oregonians. Fully \$28 million came from income tax revenue. The delay in transferring funds past May 31, is neither honest nor truthful and represents a political shell game.

“The constitution has a process for us to go through to reduce the kicker requiring 40 member votes,” said Rep. Mike McLane (R- Powell Butte). “We haven’t followed the process.”

Respectfully,

*Representative Gary Leif*  
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