



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 15, 2019

Dear Chief Clerk Sekerak,

I wish to submit the following explanation for my vote on House Bill 2975.

In 2017, with a budget shortfall looming for the 2017-2019 biennium, the legislature passed a bill that allowed for the one-time diversion of "Other Funds" into the "General Fund." As the biennium progressed, revenue increased and the state no longer needed to transfer those "Other Funds." Ordinarily, "Other Funds" would not revert back to the "General Fund," but in this case, it would have because of the legislation passed in 2017. House Bill 2975 simply repeals that legislation so that those "Other Funds," most of which come out of outside settlements with the Oregon Department of Justice, can be carried over to the 2019-2021 biennium.

I believe our priority as legislators has to be about funding the critical needs of our state, like our K-12 education system. With another budget shortfall looming and the prospect of a recession on the horizon, the \$108 million that this legislation will transfer is vital to budget stability. It will help us ensure cuts across our state government are minimized and our schools have the resources they need to be successful. For those reasons, I voted in favor of House Bill 2975.

Moving forward this session, I will be working hard to ensure that Oregon operates as efficiently as possible, while doing everything it can to invest in the critical needs of our state, both urban and rural.

Sincerely,

Rep. Tiffany Mitchell

