



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

March 2, 2022

Chief Clerk Sekerak  
Oregon State Capitol

RE: Vote explanation for HB 4157 (A-Engrossed)

Chief Clerk Sekerak,

I wish to submit the following explanation for my vote on HB 4157 (A-Engrossed).

HB 4157 (A-Engrossed) directs Department of Revenue to establish and administer a program to address the negative economic impacts of the COVID-19 public health emergency by providing one-time assistance payments to low-income households with members who worked during the first year of the COVID-19 public health emergency (2020).

The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is a federal and state credit against personal income taxes for individuals who earn up to \$57,414 a year and can reduce a family's tax burden by up to \$6,728. The credit amount depends on income, marital status, and family size, and it increases with earned income until it reaches a maximum amount, then gradually phases out. A \$57,000 a year income for an individual who works 40 hours a week would have earned ~\$27.00 per hr. This is over double what minimum wage across the state was in 2020.

Based on data from the Oregon Department of Revenue (DOR), an estimated 245,000 taxpayers will be eligible to receive this one-time \$600 payment. Funding for these payments comes from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA - P.L. 117-2) and will total approximately \$147M.

This bill is nothing more than wealth redistribution and buying votes by the supermajority.

Regards,

Anna