

Why the Veto Referendum Hurts Oklahoma



Former US Senator Tom Coburn's veto referendum is anti-student and anti-teacher. After seeing tens of thousands of teachers, support professionals, students, administrators and community members lobby the legislature to fund public education, it is beyond disappointing that a group is actively working to rip the rug out from under our students.



Repealing HB 1010xx would be devastating to core state services. The teacher pay raise is in law and part of the common education budget. Repealing the funding mechanism to fund the raises would create a huge, unfunded mandate for schools. The loss of revenue would cause a revenue failure for the state. When that happens, all state agencies will take a hit, not just education.



A poorly-funded public education system hurts Oklahoma's economy. Businesses want to locate in states that make education a priority. Repealing the funding passed this year by our legislature would send a message that we don't care about education.



Our teacher shortage is at an all-time high. HB 1010xx looks to begin reversing that trend. Our state had nearly 2,000 emergency certified teachers this year. The new revenue generated by the legislature this session will help stem the tide of teachers leaving the profession. Repealing those revenue streams will devastate our chances of keeping or attracting teachers for years to come.

#DeclineToSign

#DoNoHarm

