

Submitter: Kevin Hoar

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Human Services

Measure: SB241

Kevin Hoar Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 241

I wish to voice my support for Senate Bill 241. As both the taxpayer dealing with the rising cost of living in our state and as a citizen concerned about the stories of constant shortfall in resources to deal with the many crises and needs that exist in our state, this bill is a reassuring breath of fresh air in the midst of what seemed like too many of us a tax, spend, and fail system of public services in our state.

At a time of abundant federal resources and many millions of dollars that simply sit in accounts waiting to be spent on the very problems that these funds were designated to address, I urge this committee to do the right thing and set this priority so that our state resources can go further, and so we can avoid further driving up the cost of living in the state with additional tax increases on working families and businesses who are already besieged by inflation at every level.

It also sounds like a great opportunity to dramatically increase the efficiency of our state government by dedicating the workforce that we do have to help our state's vulnerable populations to sign up and enroll in federal benefits that many of them had no awareness there eligible for. As our state tries to generate more affordable housing, I personally heard representatives from the federal department of Housing and Urban Development beg state legislators and leaders of state agencies to work with them to procure the funds they have sitting there waiting to help with this mission.

Therefore, I urge you and your colleagues in the state legislature to vote in favor of Senate Bill 241 and show the citizens of our state that common sense and fiscal responsibility remain important objectives as we try to successfully and quickly address our state's citizens' most pressing needs.