



## **A Better Oregon Coalition - Mission Statement and Principles**

**Mission:** The A Better Oregon (ABO) coalition advocates for game-changing investments in our state, including affordable health care, senior services, strong schools, and safety net programs that Oregon families rely on to live with dignity. We believe that all families, not just families of means, should be able to get ahead, and it's clear that a lack of funding for critical services disproportionately impacts low-income families and families of color. Our coalition recognizes that we accomplish more together, and that if each member contributes their time, energy, and resources, we can find real solutions -- not just to avoid stark cuts in the short term, but make real investments and build the Oregon we deserve.

**ABO's Core Principles:** Decades of underinvestment in education and services hurts kids and working families. We can do better, but it's a choice our state's leaders have to make. The recent actions of President-elect Trump and Congressional Republicans make this a choice we can't postpone. We can invest in schools and services or we can remain 50th in corporate taxes and make drastic cuts. We think the choice is clear, and we are open to any solution that uses these principles as a starting point:

- **Game-changing investments are needed, and needed now.** Increases need to be game-changing and significant — the status quo is not serving Oregon families
- **Corporations and the wealthy, not working families, should pay.** Oregon is dead last in the nation for corporate taxes. Any proposal should make large businesses, not Oregon small businesses or working families, pay more.
- **No more cuts.** Our leaders are making a choice. No services should be cut while Oregon is 50th in business taxes.