

March 14, 2011

House Revenue Committee
Legislative Revenue Office
900 Court St. NE, Room 143
Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: HB 3167 Relating to payment of property taxes; prescribing an effective date.

Dear Co-Chairs Barnhart and Berger and members of the House Revenue Committee,

I am writing as a homeowner to express my concerns with HB 3167. I will not bore you with my life story, but instead wish to comment on something that seems to have been overlooked. I watched your public hearing on this bill on March 11, and a comment was made about people paying into escrow for the purposes of paying their property taxes and that the percentage of people "paying on their own" out of pocket where it might affect a household budget is low.

I respectfully would like to point out that, even though I pay into an escrow account, the amount I pay for my property taxes does affect my household budget and comes out of my pocket. A portion of my escrow is based on the discounted property tax payment. If the discount were to go away, my escrow, and therefore my monthly housing costs, would increase. I would imagine a high number of homeowners have escrow accounts because most are required to if there is a mortgage, and it seems like most people have mortgages on their homes.

I do not believe it is a good idea to raise monthly housing payments in the economic climate we are in now where people are facing foreclosures and struggling to pay their bills each month.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my position. I am including contact information of a few acquaintances that have seen this letter and would like to add their names in agreement. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Alea Noel Albers

Alea Albers
587 SW Riverdale Ct
Dallas, OR 97338
503-507-6490

In Agreement:

Nicholas & Melissa Barwig
3911 Pringle Creek Ct SE
Salem, OR 97302
503-999-4392

Sheri Davis
4724 Happy Dr NE
Salem, OR 97305
503-930-7726

James & Jennifer Allm
395 Cows St
McMinnville, OR 97128
503-510-4937

Chandra Keeling
405 Cows St
McMinnville, OR 97128
503-437-5976