

# NATIONAL COAST TRAIL ASSOCIATION

PO Box 11045, Portland, OR 97211 – CoastTrails.org / OregonCoastTrail.info – 503-335-3876

*“Keeping the Coast for Everyone”*  
through advocacy, education and action  
for public access, trails and coastal preservation

April 12, 2013

**RE: HB 2456A**

*House Revenue Committee*  
Oregon State Capitol  
Salem, Oregon



Dear House Revenue Committee,

As the director of an Oregon-based non-profit organization for the last 17 years, I know that every penny counts in letting you carry out your mission . . . ultimately serving everyone.

As legislators I'd have to guess partly that you are using the same reasoning in capping itemized deductions at a certain level. So, I can understand and appreciate the intent.

Budget-wise, both for non-profits and government, saving money and increasing revenues are strategies that make a lot of sense in serving people.

However, anything that could make it even harder than it's been these last few years for Oregon non-profits to increase their revenues, would make things even worse.

I'll admit, given the overall economic realities, that something needs to be done to appropriately address budgets and revenues.

But I also have to say that making sure that non-profits are able to have the funds they need, especially when seen as an investment in light of all the good they do, is crucial in serving everyone in our state.

So HB2456A , which would apparently cap itemized deductions at a certain level, could potentially have a significant negative impact on the ability of Oregon non-profits to do their work, to help those in need, to make the world a better place.

**Please don't limit, at the very least, the amount of charitable deductions, please don't restrict the amount** someone can give to an Oregon non-profit in terms of qualifying as part of their itemized deductions.

Thank you for your serious consideration in this regard.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Al LePage". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Al LePage, Executive Director