



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

DOUG ROBERTSON JOSEPH LAURANCE SUSAN MORGAN

1036 S.E. Douglas Ave., Room 217 • Roseburg, Oregon 97470 • (541) 440-4201

May 7, 2013

Re. Phil Barnhart, Chair
Rep. Jules Bailey, Vice-Chair
Rep. Vicki Berger, Vice-Chair
House Revenue Committee
Oregon State Legislature

Dear Representative Barnhart,

Please accept this letter as our endorsement and support for SB 549-A.

This bill will reinstate a tax exemption for recreational businesses that operate under special use permits on federally owned land.

Until June 30, 2012, ORS 307.182 granted a property tax exemption for these businesses, but the provision sunsetted. Absent reinstatement of the exemption, special use holders will be taxed or billed twice for the land, once in their lease payment to the relevant federal agency and again to local taxing districts.

Douglas County has consistently had a double digit unemployment rate. Our current unemployment rate is 11.1%. The jobs at Diamond Lake and Lemolo Lake Lodges and at Steamboat Inn are important to Douglas County's economy.

We respectfully urge you go support SB 549-A.

Sincerely,

DOUGLAS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Handwritten signature of Doug Robertson in blue ink, written over a horizontal line.

Doug Robertson, Chair

Handwritten signature of Joseph Laurance in blue ink, written over a horizontal line.

Joseph Laurance

Handwritten signature of Susan Morgan in blue ink, written over a horizontal line.

Susan Morgan

cc: Cliff Bentz, Jason Conger, John Davis, Sara Gelsner, Tobias Read, Jessica Vega Pederson