

Please OPPOSE HB3453.

I am aware that some have been looking for a way around voters' objections to increases in income taxes, and this bill is clearly just that. This bill appears to be a matter of "if you won't vote for a tax, the governor will impose one." Local voters should be able to decide the level of public safety services they are willing to pay for. This idea of a "benevolent" government with ideas so good they have to be mandatory is insane. Declaring this bill an "emergency" to protect it from petition before it "goes live" is further evidence that the writer(s) of this bill *know* the people would not approve of it.

Where there is a real *public safety* emergency, we have the National Guard. Forming and training local volunteer units as an adjunct to the National Guard may also be appropriate.

The bill is clearly focused on revenue. Excepting having majority and minority leaders in both chambers agree that there is a "public safety fiscal emergency", controls against abuses seem thin at best.

The point is that there are ways to deal with *public safety* emergencies ... and there are ways to try to raise revenue counter to the will of the People. This bill clearly falls into the latter group. Please therefore *vigorously* oppose HB3453. Thank you!!

I am a constituent of Rep John Lively, but am copying members of the House Committee on Rules – ***please include the above as written testimony in the public record***, if this can be done. I will be sharing my opinion and the link to this bill with friends throughout the state.

Thank you!

Andrew (Andy) Landen
Oregon Citizens' Lobby Tax & Fees Chair