

Honorable Committee Members,

HB 3453 seeks to impose an income tax on targeted citizens without approval of the legislature. It provides vast authority to the governor and the leaders of the house and senate.

The issue of funding public services at the local level is an issue of local voter decision vis-a-vis local tax levies. The matter can only arise if and when the voters veto such a tax. It is 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.

The counties at issue are in their fiscal pickle because state and local governments will not challenge the feds refusal to obey the 1937 O&C law. This is the Elephant in the room:

To compound their problem, the state has imposed arbitrary and irrational comprehensive land use regulation which has served to frustrate economic development on the privately owned land It's up to the Legislature to protect the citizens of Oregon from government gone wild.

We are asking you to vote no on this bill.

Sincerely,

Sam and Karen Villalobos

Dorena, Or