



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

DOUG ROBERTSON JOSEPH LAURANCE SUSAN MORGAN

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

February 28, 2013

Senator Ginny Burdick, Chair
Finance and Revenue
900 Court Street NE, S-213
Salem OR 97301

Senator Larry George, Vice-Chair
Finance and Revenue
900 Court Street NE, S-307
Salem OR 97301

Representative Phil Barnhart, Chair
Revenue
900 Court Street NE, H-383
Salem OR 97301

Representative Vicki Berger, Vice Chair
Revenue
900 Court Street NE, H-479
Salem OR 97301

RE: SUPPORT FOR SB 549 AND HB 2703

Please accept this letter as our endorsement and support for both SB 549 and HB 2703.

Both of these bills serve the same purpose. They will reinstate a tax exemption for recreational business 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 11.4%. 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 and HB 2703.

Sincerely,

DOUGLAS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Doug Robertson, Chair

Joseph Laurance

Susan Morgan

C: Senator Floyd Prozanski, Senator Jeff Kruse, Representative Bruce Hanna, Representative Tim Freeman