

June 14, 2013

Dear Representatives,

Please support government transparency by voting yes for House Bill 2370.

The Oregon transparency website was established four years ago through a bipartisan effort and serves as a one stop shop for taxpayers and the public to see information on the state budget, contracts, revenues and expenditures. House Bill 2370 is a bipartisan bill that will enhance the transparency website to give taxpayers a more complete picture of how tax dollars are spent.

House Bill 2370, among other things, would add additional information to the transparency website related to economic development tax expenditures. This is essential to ensuring that the public can do meaningful evaluation of these expenditures' cost and effectiveness.

Transparency in government spending checks corruption, bolsters public confidence in government and promotes greater effectiveness and fiscal responsibility. When public subsidies are given to private companies to advance goals related to economic growth, the public should see a timely and full accounting of the results of its investment. House Bill 2370 advances this goal.

Please vote yes on House Bill 2370.

Sincerely,

Celeste Meiffren
Consumer and Taxpayer Advocate


From the Desks of State Representatives Kim Thatcher & Phil Barnhart