



February 3, 2014

The Honorable Phil Barnhart
House Committee on Revenue
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: HB 4055

Dear Chair Barnhart and Members of the House Committee on Revenue:

City of Beaverton supports HB 4055 the collection of emergency communication taxes for pre-paid wireless and VoIP devices, bringing equity to the market. The taxes will help sustain a needed source of funding for emergency services critical for public safety statewide.

Washington County Consolidated Communication Agency (WCCCA) delivers 9-1-1 service and public safety communications invaluable to police, fire and emergency medical service for Beaverton and other participating jurisdictions. WCCCA is open to answer 9-1-1 and non-emergency calls from Washington County residents at all hours on all days. Nearly two-thirds of the Agency's calls originate from a wireless device. In 2013, the agency received 50,879 wire line 9-1-1 calls and 88,278 wireless calls, totaling 139,157 calls.

While the majority of telecommunications users pay the 9-1-1 tax, prepaid cell phone users and voice over internet users do not. With the large volume of WCCCA's 9-1-1 calls coming from wireless phones, we believe it is especially important to ensure that all wireless customers that have access to our service pay their fair share.

Thank you for your consideration and I urge your support for HB 4055.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Denny Doyle". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Denny Doyle
Mayor