

**DWRC Oregon Women's Rights Coalition . . . since  
1971**

March 15, 2011

RE: SB 611

Chair Barnhart and Members of the Committee:

SB 611 combines provisions for location of data centers in Oregon with the issue of central assessments. Combining these two provisions is not in the interest of the average Oregonian who relies on services provided by local governments.

The data center provisions should be forwarded to the floor and the discussion of central assessment should be addressed in a much more thoughtful manner.

Just because a large corporation who reported hundreds of millions of dollars in profits in the last quarter feels that their taxes are too high does not make that a fact.

The fact are our local counties, cities and special districts are struggling to provide services on the yoyo that has become the property tax system.

Just in the state capitol region we have a county who cannot provide sheriff deputies 24 hours a day. We have a transit system dependent on property taxes for local operations who cannot offer weekend services to the 200,000 plus inhabitants of the urban growth boundary.

Please separate out the data centers and leave central assessment. Businesses need to pay their fair share, not the share they dictate to state lawmakers. Their savings if you reduce their taxes will not go back to the users, they will be used to pay an increasing profit to their shareholders.

The taxes they continue to pay will be used to provide services to Oregonians and stay in our economy.

They are currently awaiting an outcome from a court challenge. The court case should be settled before any adjustments be considered for this issue.

***Marcia Kelley***