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- Washington County Citizen Action Network, WC CAN
- Interfaith Committee on Homelessness, IFCH, Washington County

Dear Members of the Committee:

Due to other obligations I cannot attend today's hearing. But I want "for the record" to indicate my support of **HB 2240** because it continues the conversation in the legislature about setting standards and principles by which to assess Oregon taxpayer funding of economic development projects throughout the state.

As a member of **Tax Fairness Oregon** I have been engaged with a spin off group of TFO – the **Taxpayer Return on Investment Coalition** – which has been studying for 2 years how to create assessment benchmarks of **transparency, standards, and impartiality**.

During this session we have met with each member and/or staff of both your committee and the House Revenue Committee in addition over the past two years with others in the Capitol who share our concerns.

There seems to be an emerging bi-partisan consensus that the legislature and public need to have measures of how their investments are doing and means of accounting for such. **HB 2240** moves this discussion along by creating an interim committee.

There are many moving parts in the economic development tool box in Oregon from SIPS, Connect Oregon, enterprise zones et al but we need a common, transparent and outcomes based set of criteria to judge and compare the results and metrics of these programs.

We feel it's critical to have a **single unified, sortable and downloadable database** which can be accessed by legislators and the public.

There are three other bills our coalition supports which are in the hopper this session which will create, if passed, a robust assessment process which will help this interim committee do its work – **HB 2630. HB 2940 and HB 2077**.

I will be in Salem next Monday to testify in favor of **HB 2940** before the House Revenue Committee and next Wednesday in favor **HB 2630** before your committee. We have previously testified in support of **HB 2077**.

Respectfully,

Russ Dondero