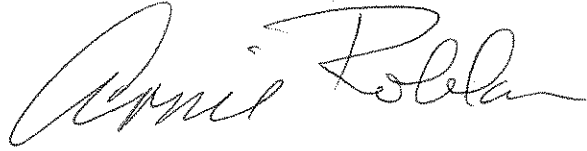


FROM THE DESK OF ARNIE ROBMAN



**AOC**

**Association of  
Oregon Counties**

**PLEASE VOTE YES ON SENATE BILL 611B**

The Association of Oregon Counties, representing all 36 county governments in Oregon, respectfully urges the Senate to pass SB 611B and make it law.

SB 611B has taken the enormous, sustained, and exhausting efforts of the Senate Finance & Revenue and House Revenue Committees, their excellent staff, and able resources of the Department of Revenue to complete a revision of the highly controversial and perplexing central assessment property tax system.

No bill is perfect. [Yes, we got the news about Google Fiber].

The property tax is *local* revenue, putting the legislative committees in an awkward position of deciding how much to spend of stressed local resources to gain attractive incentives for the right kind of community development. Counties historically share services and revenues with the State. We understand trade-offs. For years, counties have struggled to provide critical public services necessary for safe and healthy communities.

The county share of the cost of incentives under SB 611B is some \$1,330,000 annually statewide. For counties this is no small figure. Nevertheless, AOC believes that the balance is as close to right as could be attained under the circumstances. And we expect to have our share of the cost of SB 611B return to net zero and move into positive gains in a reasonably short period of time, fulfilling the bill's promise of the right incentives for the right kind of community development. The bill at least deserves a road test.

AOC urges the Senate to make SB 611B law. Counties hope the bill exceeds our highest expectations.