

## ASSOCIATION OF OREGON COUNTIES SUPPORTS HB 5201-2 AMENDMENT

Since 1991, Oregon law has required the State Lottery Commission to transfer 2.5% of net receipts from video lottery games to counties for economic development activities. Counties gave up their rights to control video lottery gaming in exchange for the 2.5% of the receipts.

In 2011, the Legislature passed HB 3188, which required all 36 counties to report expenditure information related to the use of the video lottery funds for economic development. The 2015 report can be found [here](#) on the Oregon Transparency website.

In 2015, some counties received a lot of money: Multnomah, nearly \$5 million; Washington, \$1.77 million; Clackamas, \$1.5 million; Marion County, nearly \$1.4 million.

But most counties received much smaller amounts:

- Gilliam County - \$49,589;
- Harney County - \$63,594;
- Hood River County - \$49,392;
- Lincoln County - \$162,529;
- Union County - \$120,787;
- Wheeler County - \$89,549.

This little bit money has a huge influence on economic development opportunities in these rural counties.

County Commissioners and Judges were disappointed to learn they would have to fight for the increase in the allotments that were set last session. Many legislators with whom we spoke about this issue believed there was an automatic increase when the lottery revenues went up. Yet, no adjustment has been made in the Distribution of Video Revenues to Counties in the -4 Amendments.

Counties “shall” receive 2.5% of net receipts from video lottery games, not 2.5% of the May forecast from 2015. As such, counties are entitled to an additional \$1,752,921.

AOC respectfully requests that you adopt the -2 Amendment and honor the agreement made back in 1991.

For more information, contact Mary Stern at [mstern@oregoncounties.org](mailto:mstern@oregoncounties.org) or 503-585-8351.

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