



SB 181 Information returns to continue property tax exemptions

Senate Finance and Revenue Committee – Jody Wisner – 2.27.2017

This seems like a good way to collect information to use in determining if our property tax laws -- that exempt certain properties from contributing to local taxes -- are serving their intended purpose. I can't imagine any nonprofit that doesn't want the fire department, ambulance or police to arrive when called. Yet currently these institutions are receiving services without contributing to the tax base which supports them.

While the spokesman for the Nonprofit Association of Oregon asks that you not add this **reporting burden**, it seems a tiny price to pay for the privilege of paying no property taxes. Any nonprofit that finds the one page report onerous can of course start paying property taxes instead.

Certainly, you don't yet have a "clear bright line" to offer assessors. But getting good information about the current recipients of exemption should make developing that line far easier.

We support SB 181.