



**Testimony by Wilsonville Mayor Tim Knapp in Opposition to SB 123:
*Well-Intentioned Legislation May Cause Unintended Consequences,
Detrimental Impacts to Intended Beneficiaries***

Scheduled for public hearing on February 28, 2017,
before the Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue

Chair Hass, Vice-Chair Boquist and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the City of Wilsonville City Council, I am testifying in opposition to SB 123 that authorizes formation of a new kind of special district that appears duplicative in many ways of existing government programs. The proposed legislation is well-intentioned but may cause unintended consequences to other local social-service and educational programs, many of which are designed to benefit children.


The proposed children's special district has extraordinarily broad authority, with an open range of potential programs, all appearing very similar to those that could be provided by a school district. Could the goals of this concept be achieved by working with the local school district board and other entities like public libraries and community colleges to broaden curriculum and after-school activities?

Formation of new special district under the auspices of Oregon's property-tax system of Measure 5 (1990) could well cause compression to levies of overlapping local taxing districts, both school districts and local governments, further depriving existing taxing jurisdictions of revenue to carry-out programs and services in the public interest.

The City of Wilsonville sponsors a vigorous program of activities for area children through the Wilsonville Public Library, which is part of the larger Library District of Clackamas County created by voters in 2008. The City's Parks & Recreation Department also maintains an active program with uniform fees for residents and non-residents. The World of Speed Motorsports Museum in Wilsonville and Clackamas Community College have created an after-school automotive education program with the school districts of Canby, Newberg, North Marion, Sherwood, Tigard-Tualatin and West Linn-Wilsonville.

The City of Wilsonville respectfully urges a DO NOT PASS vote on SB 123. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,


Tim Knapp, Mayor
City of Wilsonville