



## **HB 2774 Increased transparency about property taxes paid**

Testimony for House Revenue – Jody Wisner – 3.2.2017

This bill makes sense. The taxes of properties that are not centrally accessed are available on county websites. Those that are centrally assessed are not, there or elsewhere.

The attached, which shows the amounts deferred because property taxes are being appealed by communications companies, was gathered because a volunteer called and got an answer from assessors in these counties. The long process hasn't yet been completed. There are another nine counties<sup>1</sup> we believe have deferred companies' property taxes as well. But it requires one or more phone calls to get the data.

There is no reason for this, except that the DOR is worried, justifiably, that disclosure isn't allowed.

Please pass this logical legislation.

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<sup>1</sup> Baker, Columbia, Curry, Douglass, Harney, Josephine, Lake, Tillamook, and Union had deferred taxes last year, so we assume they might this year as well.