

From: Brewer, Nancy
To: [LRO](#)
Subject: Support for HB 2553-1 Amendment
Date: Tuesday, April 04, 2017 11:13:24 AM

I wish to support the -1 amendment offered by Representative Hack.

I am the Finance Director for the City of Corvallis, home of the finest institution of higher education -- Oregon State University!

We love OSU – the vibrancy the student population brings, the research and development initiatives, and the athletic and cultural opportunities available right here in town. However, as a community where a significant amount of the land area is exempt from property taxes, we also sorely lack revenue to cover costs that are often the direct result of the OSU population and institution on the community. Public safety, particularly Police and Fire services, as well as infrastructure needs remain significantly underfunded. With the broken property tax system currently in place we look for any and all funding opportunities we can find. This includes seeking grant funding for infrastructure improvements as well as economic development initiatives that would help to build our limited tax base. We have recently withdrawn an application for State grant funding for Park improvements because we did not have the \$35,000 in local match that would be required. We often have to seek donations to help us fund local grants such as this.

The -1 amendment, that would create a funding mechanism for these local grant match opportunities would be helpful.

I appreciate your consideration of these -1 amendments.

Nancy Brewer
Finance Director
City of Corvallis

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