



## **SB 181A Information returns to continue property tax exemptions**

House Revenue – Jody Wiser – 5.9.2017

SB 181A provides an important source of information about the uses of properties which pay no property taxes due to the owning organizations' non-profit status. This will provide important information for use in determining if our property tax laws -- that exempt certain properties from contributing to local taxes -- are serving their intended purpose. We 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 a number of non-profits ask that the legislature 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 short 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 exempt status should make developing that line far easier.

We support SB 181A.