



May 10, 2017

P.O. Box 158
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Ashland, OR 97520

To:
Chair Representative Phil Barnhart
Vice-Chair Representative Cliff Bentz
Vice-Chair Representative Barbara Smith Warner
Representative Knute Buehler
Representative Diego Hernandez
Representative Mark Johnson
Representative Pam Marsh
Representative Rob Nosse
Representative Greg Smith

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From: Cynthia Rider, Executive Director, Oregon Shakespeare Festival

Re: Testimony in opposition SB 181

Existing reporting through 990s and CT-12s is substantial enough to clarify whether or not a nonprofit is eligible for property tax exemption. We do not believe additional annual reporting requirements are necessary or beneficial to determining property tax exemption status. This extra layer of bureaucracy is burdensome to charitable nonprofits who are already providing ample public information through existing reporting.

SB 181 must be rejected if its true goal is to administratively strip nonprofits of their tax-exempt status and thereby rely on our nonprofit community to address local government funding shortfalls.

Nonprofits are community assets which strengthen our communities. Whether their work supports the economy; improves student outcomes, advances scientific knowledge, cares for our most vulnerable, preserves and shares our heritage or fosters creativity; nonprofits serve Oregonians.

Creating unnecessary, new reporting requirements for nonprofits is not the answer to the challenges we must meet together.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Cynthia Rider'.

Cynthia Rider
Executive Director

