



SID LEIKEN

Lane County Commissioner
Springfield District
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DATE: February 5, 2018
TO: House Committee on Revenue
RE: HB 4069, relating to lottery revenues

Dear Chairman Barnhart and Members of the Committee:

During this past interim, the Lane County Board of Commissioners voted to direct our Intergovernmental Relations Manager to pursue a legislative concept that would create security for Oregon's counties within the arena of funding for economic development programming. For the past several bienna, this stream of funding has been hard to predict as the Legislature has used late session language to appropriate less than the 2.5% statutory requirement for video lottery proceeds to be sent to counties for the purposes of economic development efforts.

HB 4069 creates a fix that is workable for all and we appreciate Representative Lively's willingness to introduce this measure. We fully support the procedure this measure establishes and urge the Committee to send this measure to Ways and Means. We are aware that there are some minor technical amendments that the bill does need, which came about from feedback on the measure from both the Oregon Lottery and the Department of Administrative Services.

This measure simply ensures that in the final accounting, each of Oregon's counties will know that the Oregon Lottery, via video lottery revenue, has indeed carved out 2.5% of net video lottery in accordance with ORS 461.457.

These dollars are exceedingly important for counties. They typically are the only dollars available for economic development. Further, when we invest these dollars locally the end result is that we grow our tax base. In a property tax constrained environment, that results in additional revenue for our General Fund, and jobs for our residents, not to mention additional income tax revenue for Oregon.

Sincerely,

Sid Leiken, Springfield District
Lane County Board of Commissioners

SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY