

**From:** [Brewer, Nancy](#)  
**To:** [LRO](#)  
**Subject:** February 20, 2019 - Property Tax Reform  
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Chair Hass.

Members of the Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue,

I appreciate the Senate Finance and Revenue Committee considering measures to reform the property tax system in Oregon.

I have worked for the City of Corvallis since 1990. My time here has included implementation of, and on-going operations under, the Constitutional Amendments known as Measure 5 (1990) and Measures 47/50 (1996/1997). Over the 29 years that these amendments have been in place, the adequacy of revenue to fund services the community wants has been a primary challenge for us. In Corvallis, assessed value has grown less than 3% in about half the years since Measure 50 went into effect. We have had several years where overall assessed value has increased only one-half of one percent, which means property tax revenue needed to fund Police, Parks, Fire, and Library services does not grow nearly as fast as expenses. Like other communities, as property tax revenue has been flat, we have turned to local option levies and more fees charged to community members to support government services.

Oregon needs property tax reform to:

- allow communities to once again choose their future;
- achieve equity between similar properties;
- obtain adequate revenue to fund the services the community needs/wants.

I appreciate your Committee's willingness to work on property tax reform as a solution I believe local communities desperately need.

Thank you!

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