

From: [holisticcooke@aol.com](mailto:holisticcooke@aol.com)  
To: [LRO](#)  
Subject: HB 2144 Testimony  
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Dear House Revenue committee,  
I am writing in favor of HB 2144, which would prohibit investors from receiving tax free capital gains from investing in "opportunity zones," zones federally identified as "low income", but which in reality have high income revenue and revenue potential. Additionally, it is generally wealthy investors who take advantage of these opportunities.

I am reminded of the words of Warren Buffet, that he 'never made decisions of investment based on Tax breaks, but on investment potential. Government is wasting their money in offering these breaks.'

The wealthy are plenty wealthy and the wealth gap is growing. The Federal Law, written a broadly advantaged way, does nothing to begin to restore justice to our wealth gap.

Extensive research on wealth and income disparities attests to the profound disparities of health and political influence in more unequal societies. I recommend the book, *The Spirit Level, Why greater equality makes societies stronger*, by Wilkinson and Pickett (social epidemiologists).

sincerely,  
Harriet Cooke, MD, MPH