



March 27, 2019

House Committee on Human Services and Housing
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: HB 3028 Increases percentage of federal earned income credit allowable as credit against Oregon personal income tax.

Dear Chair Keny-Guyer, Vice-Chair Noble, Vice-Chair Sanchez and members of the House Committee on Human Services and Housing,

On behalf of City of Beaverton, I am writing in support of HB 3028. Our volunteer tax assistance program, in partnership with CASH Oregon and AARP Tax Aide, provides free tax assistance to our community members and encourages eligible low and middle income families to take advantage of the Earned Income Tax Credits (EITC).

During the 2018 tax season, IRS-certified volunteers helped more than 2,000 families prepare and submit their tax refunds at the Beaverton site, which resulted in \$2.1 million in tax refunds, and 304 taxpayers receiving the EITC totaling \$602,339.

Increasing the percentage of the Oregon earned income credit to 20% across the board will strengthen this resource and further assist deserving families that struggle to fund their basic needs. Too often EITC is underused leaving millions of dollars on the table. It is also important to recognize the hard work of all deserving community members that pay taxes and HB 3028 would make this tax credit accessible to all.

I urge the Committee to pass this important legislation that will help us tackle poverty in our community. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Denny Doyle". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Denny Doyle
Mayor