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Via Electronic Mail

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To: Senate Committee on Housing; [many other good folks]; **Representatives** Noble; Post; **Senator:** Thatcher

Re: [SB 943] Is a parsonage being used to foster a housing scam on church properties? Say it ain't so.

The topic of a parsonage on church property has been a topic of much tax-legislation over decades with the discussion of "housing allowances" as part of the Preacher's Gross income. The effects of tax-legislation over the years has resulted in parsonages declining precipitously on church properties throughout our nation.

Here we have a the return of the parsonage (hopefully without the income tax rider) to house those who hardly make any money to pay for housing while keeping us from going to Hell. But, with the return of the parsonage **[SB 943]** authorizes and or demands additional housing for the down-trodden members of the motley flock or a community of ne'er-do-wells depending on your opinion of the facts.

[SB 943] presents a unique theological variant of three (3) Holy Bible Gospel teachings and they are: **[Matthew 10:13-17, Mark 2:13-17, and Luke 5:27-32]** roughly, these Gospels record how the Pharisees gave Jesus a hard time for eating and drinking with tax collectors. Again roughly, Jesus rebuked them declaring the healthy do not need a physician only the sick do-now, go figure it out for yourselves.

Modernly, **[SB 943]** could use the aforementioned Gospels to legitimize and authorize building affordable housing on church properties. This has the effect of bringing the "sick" to the "physician" without the slightest reference to Lord Jesus. This surely is not a good idea of not giving God any say in the matter especially when the **[HB 4006]** has become the law of Pharaoh and **[HB 2001]** or **[HB 2003]** are on the horizon.

What is not mentioned, by allowing the aforementioned horrible housing bills to become law, the carbon footprint increases or decrease depending on your biblical interpretation. The carbon footprint increases through the concentration of people and their transportation choices or it decreases because the "sinners" are concentrated near the "physician." This may be bad news for the Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction's exegesis of **[HB 2020]** and the unfunded mandate to "save the planet."

Now , arguing against the Gospels (especially 75% of them) probably is not a good idea. However, if we go back, back to Wasco County, Oregon in the 1980's a unique and similar housing idea became incorporated as **Rajnesshpuram**. I'm sure some of you are old enough to remember the **Rajneeshees**.

But, let us always strive to be fair and inclusive. Remember, [Vernon Wayne Howell a.k.a. **David Koresh**] and his church, "**The Branch Davidian**" located at the Mount Carmel Center in McLennan, Texas?

So, the moral of this story is keep the parsonage for the Preacher (tax-free of course) and jettison the "affordable-Rajnesshpuram-Branch Davidian-housing" opportunities on church properties that **[SB 943]**, **[HB 4006]** and **[HB 2001]** will enable a resurgence. **[HB 2003]** has been "pulled of the calendar" for now.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ David S. Wall

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