



500 COURT STREET
P.O. Box 365
MORO, OREGON 97039

April 18, 2019

Representative Nancy Nathanson, Chair
House Committee on Revenue
900 Court Street, NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: Support of HB2449

Dear Chairperson Nathanson and members of the House Revenue Committee:

As a user of Frontier Regional 911 Dispatch, I am extremely concerned with the possibility of decreased 911 funding. As of this time, the 9-1-1 tax does not even have sufficient funds to pay for the current needs of our dispatch center.

Frontier Regional 911 is a consolidated 9-1-1 center serving police, EMS and fire for Gilliam, Jefferson, Sherman and Wheeler Counties. They answer 9-1-1 calls for all of agencies residing within the 5560 square miles with the exception of the small area that Warm Springs Tribe handles. Frontier Regional 911 dispatches for 4 Sheriff Offices, 1 Police Department, 13 Fire and 8 EMS Agencies.

Our fire, EMS and Law Enforcement agencies are dependent on the PSAP being staffed with trained professionals. It is also imperative that our dispatch center keep up with technology. If funding continues to decrease, agencies will have to pick of the slack. There are many agencies, not only in Sherman County, who cannot afford to absorb the financial burden of supplementing the 9-1-1 System budget.

I understand that HB2449 seeks to increase the tax and help ensure continued operations of the vital 9-1-1 systems in Oregon. I am respectfully requesting your support of HB2449.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Shawn Payne'.

Shawn Payne, Director
Sherman County Emergency Services