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February 9, 2021

To: House Committee on Housing; others

**Re: I OPPOSE [HB 2918]..."Affordable Housing" is all around you...if you can "Afford" it.**

[HB 2918] is yet another unfunded, un-needed mandate. The Department of Administrative Services (DAS) should already have a list of "state surplus properties."

This "Quixotic quest" to find property for the governmental illusory gimmick known as "affordable housing" is getting a bit anal.

In Yamhill County or as long-time residents say, "Scam-Hill County," properties from tax foreclosures are transferred (at cost i.e. filing, closing et cetera) to Non-profit and or Public Benefit Corporations without any competition. This process works very well if you are in "good" with the party bosses.

The aforementioned process is codified in [ORS 271.330] but, does Yamhill County follow the statute?

Here is [ORS 271.330]: <https://www.oregonlaws.org/ors/271.330>

The Audits Division of the Secretary of State should take a peek at this little tidbit and see. While they are at it, the Audits Division should audit Yamhill County thoroughly. Start with Commissioner Starrett concerning this issue of transferring tax-foreclosed properties-The Yamhill Gospel Mission is a good story.

The customary process approved and utilized by government agencies in Oregon with reference to surplus properties, save Yamhill County, works satisfactory. Give a call to the good folks at DAS, they will gladly assist you.

There is "No" pressing need to adopt a new demand, which is objectionable; due to the burdensome and oppressive dictate to state agencies, whose employees may be under duress during the COVID-19 pandemic.

By the way, in Yamhill County, I persistently argued, the use of [ORS 271.330] comes with obligations. If the obligations are not followed, the transfer of tax-foreclosed properties constitutes "Gifting" the property to a Non-profit and or Public Benefit Corporation which in turn, can flip the property at market rate upon dissolution of the corporate entity. Now who would do such a mean spirited money grabbing thing?

I contend all surplus and or tax-foreclosed property should be put up for Public Bidding to better serve the taxpayers. It is a good start to minimize government graft and corruption while getting the highest amount of money for the taxpayers.

It is certainly going to be entertaining to see how surplus properties are to be disposed of when the accursed Non-profit and Public Benefit Corporations feel they are "entitled" to be first in the chow line.

Yes sir, you take away the "entitlement" the Non-profit and Public Benefit Corporations think they have and make them compete for the highest public bid, they'll squeal like stuck pigs...I guarantee.

*Respectfully submitted,*  
/s/ David S. Wall