



Joint Committee on Tax Expenditures
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St. NE
Salem Oregon 97301

June 11, 2021

Dear Co-Chairs Burdick and Nathanson and members of the committee,

The Oregon Solar + Storage Industries Association (OSSIA) is a trade association founded in 1981 to promote clean, renewable, solar technologies. OSSIA members include businesses, non-profit groups, and other solar industry stakeholders. We provide a unified voice of the solar industry and focus exclusively on the solar value chain; from workforce development to permitting, advocacy, policy, and regulation for manufacturing, residential, commercial, community, and utility scale solar projects on the local, state and regional level.

The Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT or PILOT) program has successfully supported the development of solar projects in Oregon since it became law. Having tax certainty allows project developers to approach financial backers with a solid proposal that inspires confidence in the project.

We strongly support the extension of the PILOT and appreciate working with the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) and the Community Renewable Energy Association (CREA) to come to you with a proposal to lower the amount of property taxes in the PILOT. With developers receiving declining rates for solar power, a decline in the PILOT will continue to provide the same incentive to Oregon-based solar projects.

Building solar projects in Oregon provides local jobs, property tax revenue, and makes Oregon more energy independent. SB 154 provides certainty to solar companies that Oregon welcomes their projects.

Thank you for your consideration and your support of extending the PILOT.

Sincerely,

Angela Crowley-Koch
Executive Director