

January 25, 2023 House Committee on Revenue

RE: Opposition to HB 2088

The League of Oregon Cities (LOC) is an intergovernmental association which represents all of Oregon's 241 cities across the state.

The LOC opposes HB 2088 as written, which diverts 3% of property tax revenues to fund the work of the county assessors. This bill would drastically reduce resources for our cities, which are still struggling with the effects of the coronavirus pandemic with limited avenues to raise revenue.

Cities provide critical services including police and fire protection, sewer and water treatment, libraries, parks and recreation, street maintenance, and social services. Now more than ever, residents are looking to cities for solutions to escalating rates of homelessness and a severe shortage of affordable and available housing.

Revenue loss estimates from member cities:

City of La Pine: \$12,000
City of Pendleton: \$200,000
City of Medford: \$1,350,000
City of Beaverton: \$1,400,000
City of Eugene: \$4,400,000

The League of Oregon Cities recognizes that there is a structural issue related to the funding of the administration of the statewide property tax and would like to work with the Assessors to find a solution that does not divert funds from critical city services, or use an already constrained revenue source such as shared revenues from property tax.

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