

Submitter: Patty Dorroh
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure: HB2497

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Thank you Honorable Chair, Vice Chairs and Members of the Committee:

My name is Patty Dorroh, and I'm a Harney County Commissioner. I'm providing written testimony today to support House Bill-2497.

Please support HB-2947. This bill will go far to help our small budget, frontier county as well as others across Oregon, to be able to provide safe, sufficient, secure access to the justice system, participation in local governance, and public safety infrastructure.

This bill is so needed, and we appreciate its introduction and seek your support and passage.

Harney County's current courthouse and jail are in need of replacement but we lack the tax base to fund and move forward on providing them to our people. We are a financially low income county but want and need to provide the basic civic and public safety services so important to all.

Without help from the State of Oregon and your committee, we will not be able to succeed in serving our residents with the very basics of citizen and public safety services due to inadequate facilities and gaps in long overdue technology and security upgrades. Liability and safety concerns are heavy on my mind.

I know that you as legislators care deeply about Oregonians and strive for equitable legislation. This is an opportunity to help counties where low population, high federal and state land base, and serious systemic and enduring economic hardships hinder local solutions. This is an opportunity to provide an equitable path for us to strive to provide essential levels of service in partnership with the State of Oregon.

Thank you for reading this. Your support and work on this will have a huge impact for our County and many other counties. I sincerely appreciate your efforts!

Thank you, Commissioner Patty Dorroh