

Submitter: Sarah Lynch
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Revenue
Measure: HB4007

Hello,

I am a survivor of the 2018 Camp Fire in Paradise/ Magalia, California. After not only going through the traumatic experience of being involved in the fire escape, we later learned that our house was no longer standing. Not only did we lose the house, but our possessions as well.

We were awarded a certain amount from the Fire Victim Trust only to find out that we would only receive 70% of the awarded money. This money, as we are told is to "Make Us Whole", and now with not only less money than we are promised, we are also having to pay taxes on the money that was not something we worked at a job for. The fire was a life-changing event, and others like me just want to get the money that we were promised, so we can move on with our lives.

We will never be made whole after the fire. I know that because I am still dealing with PTSD.

It is also my understanding that this money is not a regular income for the state of Oregon to rely on and that it is an overture instead.

SB1249 for California is the bill that was passed to exempt the money from getting taxed.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.