

Submitter: Laurie Kimmell

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure: SB1520

This bill needs amendments that actually help the wildfire victims with the tax burden. I had a catastrophic incident (flood) with my home. My insurance adjuster accused us of causing the incident to remodel the house. The mortgage company would only release small amounts of money at a time. I had to take out a shorts term loan to pay the contractor to avoid going into default. My house was unusable for approximately 1 year. Fires are much worse. The home owner has to account for each item and some insurance companies refuse to pay for out buildings and contents. (Just like an acquaintance of mine in Lyons).

It is a taxing experience just trying to get your home restored, or rebuilt then the Oregon Department of Revenue wants a piece of the settlement, too. Sen Boquist recommended to have a deduction for attorney fees and to raise the cap. I would support the bill if clear amendments like Sen. Boquist suggested were added to protect the home owner.

Thank you,
LAURIE KIMMELL, MSgt, USAF (Ret.)