



Wheeler County Assessment & Taxation Office

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House Committee on Revenue
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Testimony in Support of House Bill 3518

Dear Chair Nathanson and members of the House Committee on Revenue,

I am writing to convey my strong support for HB 3518, which will provide funding for local property tax assessment and taxation functions. As you know, accurate property tax assessments are crucial for ensuring fairness, transparency, and equity within our local tax systems. However, many local governments and municipalities are currently struggling to maintain the resources needed to effectively carry out these functions. This legislation will help alleviate that burden and ensure our communities are better served.

Local property tax assessments are a cornerstone of funding for essential services including education, public safety, and infrastructure. Without sufficient resources, municipalities are often forced to cut back on these vital services or face delays in assessments, resulting in inefficiencies, inaccuracies, and inequities that can disproportionately impact taxpayers and business owners alike.

By securing adequate funding for these functions, this legislation will not only improve the accuracy and timeliness of property assessments but also help to build public trust in local governance. It ensures that property taxes are applied fairly and consistently, preventing discrepancies and addressing concerns that may arise from underfunded or outdated systems.

In addition, investing in local property tax assessment functions creates long-term benefits, such as reducing the risk of litigation, improving local revenue collection, and fostering a more robust and efficient local government. I firmly believe that this legislation is a crucial step in strengthening our communities and ensuring that tax policies are effectively implemented for the benefit of all.

Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to seeing this important bill advance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Auralea Johnson".

Auralea Johnson
Wheeler County Assessor & Tax Collector