

## Assessor Office

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March 6, 2025

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

Subject: Testimony in Support of House Bill 3518

Dear Chair Nathanson, Vice-Chairs Reschke and Walters, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 3518, which seeks to provide critical funding for Assessment and Taxation (A&T) functions across Oregon. As the Gilliam County Assessor and Tax Collector, I recognize the essential role that A&T departments play in ensuring accurate property assessments, fair taxation, and the equitable distribution of public resources.

Oregon's county assessors and taxation offices are responsible for maintaining a stable and predictable property tax system, which serves as a primary funding source for essential local services, including schools, public safety, infrastructure, and community programs. Unfortunately, inadequate funding has put considerable strain on these offices, jeopardizing their ability to perform timely and accurate assessments, maintain up-to-date property records, and process tax revenues efficiently.

House Bill 3518 provides a much-needed investment in these functions, ensuring that counties have the necessary resources to carry out their statutory duties effectively. This funding will enhance technological capabilities, improve staffing levels, and support training initiatives, ultimately benefiting Oregon taxpayers through a more transparent, reliable, and efficient property tax system.

By passing HB 3518, Legislature will demonstrate its commitment to maintaining a fair and well-functioning tax administration system that upholds the integrity of property valuation and taxation processes across the state. I urge you to support this bill and advocate for its swift passage.

Sincerely,

*Chet R Wilkins*

Chet Wilkins  
Gilliam County Assessor

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