



6/5/2025

Representative Mark Owens (R-Crane)  
House District 60

**Shane M. Alderson**  
Commission Chair  
salderson@bakercountyor.gov

Senator-Mike McLane  
Republican-District 30

**Christina Witham**  
Commissioner  
cwitham@bakercountyor.gov

Subject: House Bill 3518

**Michelle Kaseberg**  
Commissioner  
mkaseberg@bakercountyor.gov

Thank you for the opportunity to ask for your support on passing HB 3518


Funding for the County Assessment Function Funding Assistance Grant (CAFFA) established by the Oregon Legislature in 1989 through House Bill 2338, has declined to a critical level. Originally providing approximately 30% of funding for Assessment & Tax functions across the state, CAFFA funding for Baker County has decreased to a critical level, the last two years have dropped as low as 11.5% and 9.5%

This decline places considerable pressure on our general fund to compensate for this declining source of funding. This affects the integrity of the property tax program and diverts funds from other essential general fund services Baker County is required to provide.

Property tax is the primary revenue source for country general funds and other taxing districts including school districts, fire & police protection and cities to name just a few. HB 3518 seeks to restore the intent of HB 2338 by providing sustainable funding for Assessment & Tax functions across Oregon. Without this funding property tax revenues will continue to decline due to the strain of funding property tax functions. We strongly urge you to support the passage of House Bill 3518. The Baker County Commissioners supports the passage of House Bill 3518.

Sincerely,

Shane Alderson, Baker County Commission Chair

 Recoverable Signature


X Christina Witham

---

Christina Witham

Baker County Commissioner

Signed by: dbb8b961-ec75-44fd-a345-f99bb51fa07e

 Recoverable Signature

X Michelle Kaseberg

---

Michelle Kaseberg

Baker County Commissioner

Signed by: dbb8b961-ec75-44fd-a345-f99bb51fa07e