

Feb. 13, 2015

Honorable Brian Boquist, Chair Senate Committee on Veterans and Emergency Preparedness 900 Court St. NE Salem, Or 97301

RE: SB 432 prohibits reallocation of funds from 9-1-1 account

Dear Chair Boquist and Members of the Veterans and Emergency Preparedness Committee:

As the Mayor of Beaverton and chair of the Washington County Consolidated Communication Agency Board, one of my top priorities is public safety. I strongly support Senate Bill 432. The bill will ensure that all 911 tax dollars go toward emergency services which are critical for public safety statewide.

Washington County Consolidated Communication Agency (WCCCA) relies on the 9-1-1 tax as a significant funding source. The Agency delivers 9-1-1 service and public safety communications invaluable to police, fire and emergency medical service for Beaverton and other participating jurisdictions.

At the same time, the existing dollars to not cover the current costs of emergency services. In fact, approximately 30 percent of the total budget of each agency's 9-1-1 services stems from the state 9-1-1 tax. Given this reality, it only makes sense that any monies collected for emergency services be restricted to fund emergency services.

I urge you to support SB 432.

Sincerely,

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Denny Doyle Mayor