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January 28, 2022

House Committee on Revenue
Oregon Legislature
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: HB 4054

Chair Nathanson, Vice-Chair Pham, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of over 350 nonprofit organizations and individual members of our Coalition who deeply value access to Oregon's cultural treasures for every resident, we write to encourage you to **extend the sunset for the historic property special assessment program.**

As you know, several impacted stakeholders are working collaboratively to design a more accessible and inclusive program with the intention of bringing that design back to policymakers for consideration in a future legislative session. We believe this collaborative path is the best opportunity to modernize the program. We need stability for the field while this process is underway which is why we support an extended time period for an alternative design to emerge.

This is the longest running tax benefit program for historic preservation in the country, first enacted in 1975. **Revisiting the program's design with the values of preservation, anti-displacement, equity, and inclusion is important to our Coalition.** We look to our colleagues at Restore Oregon for their expertise in knowing some of the impacts in the field as the program is updated, and hope that you will continue to look to their members for input in this process.

The Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon believe financial incentives are important tools in encouraging the preservation of historic properties. Protecting Oregon's historic gems is a significant goal of preserving our complete cultural landscape.

Sincerely,

JS May
Board President
Cultural Advocacy Coalition