



February 1, 2022

House Committee on Revenue
Oregon Legislature
900 Court Street NE, Room 160
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for HB 4054-1

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

Restore Oregon is a statewide non-profit representing thousands of Oregonians working together to preserve, reuse, and pass forward the places that embody our diverse heritage. We promote the restoration and reuse of older homes, buildings, and public spaces as a means to help solve problems like the lack of affordable housing, rural economic development, and climate change.

We write to encourage you to **extend the sunset for the Historic Special Assessment Program.**

Many of our members and supporters have been working collaboratively as part of the House Revenue Working Group under the leadership of Reps Levy and Valderrama to **revisit the program's design with the values of equity, inclusion, anti-displacement and affordability in ways to enrich the historic preservation benefits** that this program can provide to Oregonians. **Restore Oregon strongly supports this work and offers our assistance** in any way possible as we know that modernizing this program in a more accessible and inclusive way will ensure the best possible results.

We think this two-year extension will bring continuity and stability to the existing program while giving additional time necessary to create an alternative program, hopefully with more tools and better benefits for historic properties all across the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input and support. Restore Oregon believes that financial incentives are critically needed tools to encourage protection and the ongoing use of our built, natural and cultural heritage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicole Possert". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nicole Possert
Executive Director