



Senate Committee on Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

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February 2, 2022

Baker County supports Senate Bill 1517.

As demonstrated throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, Governor, state government, and bureaucratic overreach have reached unconstitutional levels – all based on “emergency declarations”.

It is imperative that measures be taken to reduce the authority the Governor, state government agencies, and the bureaucracy to extend, seemingly in perpetuity, emergency orders. For example, currently the Covid-19 state of emergency has been ongoing for over two years. No “emergency” lasts that long.

Essential Meaning of *emergency*

: an unexpected and usually dangerous situation that calls for immediate action (Merriam-Webster Dictionary)

It is also critical that our representative democracy adhere to the rules that the legislature makes the laws. When the executive branch and bureaucracies are allowed to make mandates, laws, orders, etc. without the legislature fulfilling its duties, governing becomes a dictatorship.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 1517.

Sincerely,

Bill Harvey, Chairman
Baker County Commission