

Chair Beyer, Vice-Chair Boquist, Members of the Senate Finance and Revenue Committee:

Oregon AFSCME would like to submit this testimony today in support of Senate Bill 1506. Oregon AFSCME represents over 32,000 Oregonians across the state including thousands of local government workers. Oregon AFSCME members perform critical work in our local communities from public health to public works to social services. Senate Bill 1506 would add another tool in local governments tool box when it comes to raising revenue to support the services they provide to the community.

This bill would allow local governments to increase the tax on marijuana from a max of 3% to a max of 10%. This would put many jurisditictions on par with similar markets near us on the tax of this product. Local governments are often restricted in the various ways they can raise revenues and have been put at a strong disadvantage with our current property tax system.

Please support this simple measure that would increase local autonomy and allow local jursdcitions the ability to set rates that make sense for them.

Dan Torres Political Coordinator Oregon AFSCME Council 75