

Testimony from Michael Ellis

Good day to you Sirs and Madams,

I am writing to you today in reference to HB3523. If you are residents of this great state of Oregon as am I (I've lived here for the last 40 years) then you will know the effects of disasters upon the lives of our citizens, especially the wildfires in recent years. Specifically in my case and my family's case, it was the disaster caused by the Archie Creek Fire of September 2020.

This fire devastated my family and our way of life. It left us very vulnerable to so many other unseen troubles. Not just us, but the whole community. Their ability to move forward has been severely hampered. Communities are made by people that live very human lives and are connected in many ways. In the same way we all make up this wonderful state. If you at all desire to see a flourishing of citizens and communities and have an understanding of what is fair, then taxation of the very funds that are coming to help those who need it most is an incomprehensible burden. Please support this Bill (HB3523). To be human is our greatest asset. When used in brotherhood we have the ability to help one another.

I urge you to consider this deeply. When everything else is gone lying in ashes in one form or another as human beings all we have left is our humanity and our brotherhood for each other which will be measured by how we treat one another.

Yours truly,
Michael Ellis