



February 9, 2024

House Committee on Revenue
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: *Testimony in support of HB 4072*

Chair Nathanson, Co-Chairs Reschke & Walters, and Members of the Committee,

At the Salem Area Chamber of Commerce, we believe in helping businesses prosper so our entire community may thrive. As the City of Salem navigates a forecasted revenue deficit, we have been actively engaged in the conversation to address this challenge. The Salem business community strongly advocates for an annual payment-in-lieu-of-taxes program directed toward the City of Salem, which equitably quantifies the state’s impact on the city’s budget for fire, police, and emergency services.

As Oregon’s capital city, Salem bears the burden of a high percentage of state-owned properties which do not contribute to our local property tax revenue. Additionally, there are a significant number of State of Oregon employees who do not reside in Salem but work within the Salem community. Additionally, the City of Salem bears the service obligations for those served via state services, such as individuals residing in Salem-based incarceration, corrections, and the state hospital.

We urge the committee to pass HB 4072, in equitable financial support of crucial services here in Oregon’s capital city.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Hoffert, IOM
Chief Executive Officer
Salem Area Chamber of Commerce

**Salem Area Chamber
of Commerce**

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Chief Executive Officer

Tom Hoffert
Salem Area Chamber of Commerce