

Submitter: Greg Barbre
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Revenue
Measure: HB4007

My wife Debbie and I retired to a beautiful 8 acre homestead near the North Umpqua and spent 11 years working it into a beautiful park like setting. In minutes it, and nearly everything we owned and collected in 6 decades was destroyed by the Archie Creek Wildfire. I will not detail our losses, The loss cannot be put into words.

I support HB4007 because we are the ones that worked diligently attending the lawsuit meetings and gathering and submitting mountains of documents and photos over 3 years. We are the ones that picked ourselves up and started over. We were fortunate to have insurance, others were not, yet we spent 2 and a half years wearing down the insurance company to get our policy limits. Who would want a retirement like that?

Yet if the federal and state governments do not pass these tax relief bills we will be lucky to retain 20% of the settlement funds, money that we need to rebuild our lives to a semblance of what we had before. The law firm deducted 35%, the settlement firm charged almost \$3500 to process the check, even the accounting firm is charging us an additional \$1200 to navigate the settlement money. It feels like death by a thousand cuts, Please don't let the state be a part of that.

We are not asking for a handout. In times of misfortune the State should help its citizens and not profit from our misfortune. It does not feel right because it is not right. Please pass HB4007