

Submitter: Carrie Richter
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3190

Hon. Nathanson, Chair
Hon. Reschke and Walters, Vice-Chairs
House Committee on Revenue
Oregon Legislature
Salem, OR 97301

RE: SUPPORT HB 3190

Dear Chair Nathanson, Vice Chairs Reschke and Walters, and Committee Members,

I am writing to express my support for HB 3190. Historic main streets serve a vital role providing places where people want to be, whether as a tourist, an employee or a resident. Oregon is littered with examples from rural Main Streets in Moro, Grass Valley or Echo to urban areas like Willamette Falls Drive in West Linn or Historic Downtown Troutdale. Adaptive reuse of commercial buildings serve as significant economic generators, provide walkable access to services and mixed use opportunities for housing.

These rich community gathering places do not happen by chance. It takes a dedicated commitment by property owners to costly rehabilitation efforts from seismic retrofits to asbestos removal and window restoration efforts allowing these often long-dormant buildings to be reborn serving as the life-blood of a community. HB 3190 would restore Oregon's long-standing special assessment program for commercial structures. At a time when commercial areas are struggling to remain viable, HB 3190 would provide a valuable tool to existing owners and potential future buyers encouraging reuse of historic commercial structures that provide a tremendous asset to Oregonians across the state.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Carrie Richter