

Submitter: D Torres
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3163

Honorable Members of the Committee,

I come before you today in strong support of the bill HB 3163, which proposes a specially assessed value for the owner-occupied primary residences of individuals who are at least 62 years of age. This bill is an essential step toward ensuring that our older residents, who have contributed so much to our communities, can continue to live in their homes without the burden of rising property taxes threatening their stability.

As we all know, the cost of living has steadily increased over the years, and for many seniors, fixed incomes often make it challenging to keep up with these rising expenses. Property taxes, while vital to local governments, can present a particular hardship for elderly homeowners who may no longer be earning income or may face health-related expenses that drain their resources.

This bill is designed to address this issue directly. By providing a specially assessed value for those who are at least 62 years old, it recognizes the unique financial circumstances of seniors and helps preserve their ability to remain in their homes—homes that may have been passed down through generations and are often a significant part of their wealth and identity.

Supporting seniors in this way will not only ease their financial burdens but will also contribute to the stability and vibrancy of our neighborhoods. Senior citizens are a cornerstone of our communities, and allowing them to remain in their homes will help maintain the social fabric and continuity that enriches us all. Additionally, providing this kind of support will reduce the risk of displacement and preserve the diverse demographics of our towns and cities.

I urge you to support this bill to provide our seniors with the relief they need and deserve. It is a necessary and compassionate measure that will improve the quality of life for older homeowners, allowing them to continue to thrive in their homes and communities.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Donna Torres
Douglas County, Oregon