

Wallowa County Assessor

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House Committee on Revenue Oregon State Legislature 900 Court St. NE Salem, OR 97301 Testimony in Support of House Bill 3518

Dear Chair Nathanson and Members of the Committee

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 3518, which seeks to provide crucial financial assistance to Oregon's county assessors and improve the efficiency of assessment functions. This bill is vital for ensuring that county assessors have the necessary resources to carry out their responsibilities effectively, particularly in the face of ongoing budget constraints.

County assessors play an essential role in the property tax system, ensuring the accurate valuation of properties for taxation. This, in turn, supports the funding of essential public services, such as education, healthcare, and infrastructure. Unfortunately, many county assessor offices have faced significant budget cuts in recent years, which have hindered their ability to maintain a high standard of service. These budgetary challenges have led to backlogs in assessments, delays in property tax processing, and challenges in implementing new technologies that could improve efficiency.

House Bill 3518 addresses these issues head-on, providing necessary financial support to county assessor offices and enabling them to enhance their operations. By bolstering the funding for assessors, the bill would ensure that counties can reduce backlogs, update assessment tools and technologies, and maintain accurate property records. Ultimately, this would lead to more efficient and fair property tax assessments, benefiting both residents and local governments.

As a resident of Oregon, I understand the importance of ensuring that property assessments are fair, accurate, and timely. By supporting this bill, we can help county assessors better serve our communities and improve the overall functionality of Oregon's property tax system. This will lead to better outcomes for taxpayers, local governments, and the many essential services that rely on property tax revenue.

I urge you to support House Bill 3518 and work towards its swift passage. The successful implementation of this bill will have a lasting positive impact on efficiency and effectiveness of property assessments in Oregon, and it will help ensure that our county assessor offices are well-equipped to meet the demands of their critical work.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to your support on this important issue.

Sincerely,

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