



Christopher J. Parosa
Lane County District Attorney

LANE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
125 EAST 8th AVENUE, ROOM 400
EUGENE, OREGON 97401-2926
FAX ONLY (541) 682-3890
(541) 682-4261

Dear Chair Nathanson and Members of the Committee:

The Lane County District Attorney strongly supports the primary goals of HB 3518, which seeks to stabilize, index, and enhance the funding available through the County Assessment Function Funding Assistance Account (CAFFA) grant.

Property taxes are the backbone of a district's financial health, making it essential to invest in the infrastructure that generates this revenue. Proper funding for Assessment and Taxation ensures the necessary resources for managing property taxes, maintaining appraisal staff, and defending accurate valuations in tax court. These efforts are vital for safeguarding revenue streams and upholding good governance practices that protect public assets.

In Lane County, chronic underfunding affects the District Attorney's Office—a key department funded by the county general fund.

For the FY 24-25 budget in Lane County:

- Property taxes contributed \$52 million to the county general fund.
- The District Attorney's Office relied on the general fund for 99.92% of its budget.

When Assessment and Taxation functions lack proper funding, tax revenue goes uncollected, directly impacting the ability to provide critical public safety services. Stable, indexed funding for these functions would support a skilled Assessment and Taxation workforce, improve the accuracy and timeliness of property assessments, ensure fairness for taxpayers, and boost tax revenue for local districts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "CJP", is written over the printed name.

Christopher J. Parosa