

Submitter: Michael Tiebout
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3076

Chairperson and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony today. I write in strong opposition to HB 3076, which, if enacted, could have serious, negative consequences for our community, economy, and individual rights.

Overreach and Erosion of Local Control

HB 3076 would impose a significant level of state intervention that undermines the principle of local governance. Local communities should have the ability to decide what policies and regulations best suit their unique needs. By centralizing decision-making, this bill removes vital autonomy from local governments, diminishing their ability to address issues on a grassroots level. This type of overreach restricts the ability of local authorities to create tailored solutions for local concerns, which can ultimately hinder effective governance and community welfare.

Economic Impact and Job Losses

One of the most concerning aspects of HB 3076 is its potential to disrupt local economies. The provisions in this bill would impose heavy burdens on businesses, particularly small businesses, that rely on flexibility and local policy adaptation to thrive. By enforcing state-mandated regulations, many businesses may face compliance costs that are unaffordable, leading to layoffs, business closures, or reduced economic activity. Furthermore, businesses will have to deal with increased red tape, diverting resources from innovation and customer service. The resulting economic instability could leave lasting effects on our job market and small business sector, which are the backbone of our economy.

Disregard for Stakeholder Input

HB 3076 seems to lack sufficient stakeholder input in its formulation. Key community members, such as business owners, local leaders, and industry professionals, were not adequately consulted during the drafting of this bill. This lack of inclusivity in the legislative process is concerning, as it may result in policies that do not reflect the realities and challenges faced by those who would be most affected. Engaging stakeholders ensures that policies are better informed, more balanced, and more likely to succeed.

Unintended Consequences and Increased Burden on Residents

While HB 3076 may have been introduced with good intentions, it risks creating unintended consequences that disproportionately impact residents. By imposing additional regulatory burdens, the bill could result in higher costs for residents in the form of increased taxes, fees, and service charges. In particular, vulnerable communities may suffer the most, as they often bear the brunt of policies that add financial strain without providing the intended benefits. Rather than addressing the root issues, HB 3076 may inadvertently exacerbate existing disparities.

Lack of Data and Evidence to Support Effectiveness

Another major concern is that there appears to be insufficient data supporting the effectiveness of HB 3076's proposed changes. Before implementing sweeping state-level mandates, it is crucial that we understand the potential outcomes of such policies. A failure to engage in comprehensive research, cost-benefit analysis, and evidence-based policy-making could lead to ineffective or even counterproductive results. We should prioritize policies that are based on data and proven models, ensuring that they deliver tangible benefits without undue risks or negative side effects.

Alternative Approaches

Rather than pursuing a one-size-fits-all approach, we encourage the committee to consider alternative methods of addressing the issues that HB 3076 seeks to address. Local governments should be empowered to develop solutions that reflect the needs of their communities, while maintaining accountability and transparency. Collaboration with businesses, local leaders, and other stakeholders is key to identifying policies that have a higher likelihood of success, while also considering the unique economic, social, and environmental conditions of each region.