

Submitter:	T. Scott Harden
On Behalf Of:	Gresham Senior Center
Committee:	House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	HB3940

The Gresham Senior Center serves seniors in Gresham and all of East Multnomah County. We are one of the 7,000 Oregon based non-profit (501c3) that benefit from the bottle bill and bottle return. We provide classes, seminars and special events that help seniors avoid loneliness, remain active and remain connected to their community. We are a volunteer run organization with only one paid staff. Most of our volunteers are seniors. Our overall resources are small, ranging from 265,000 to 300,000 dollars over the past three years. In that time, our Bottle Drop account has generated 4% of our intake. It is easy, consistent and because we are contribution and grant funded; it offers an inexpensive way for people to donate to our organization. People get a sense of pride from contributing and they feel better about taking advantage of the services we offer when they feel as though they have paid their way. Please do not adversely impact our beneficial program by creating a funding mechanism with no obvious tie to fire fighting.