



# WASHINGTON COUNTY OREGON

Dear Chair Nathanson, Vice-Chairs Walters and Reschke and Members of the Committee:

My name is Zakir Khan, and I am a Government Relations Manager for Washington County. I am here to testify in support of HB 3518 and the -2 amendment.

Funding level declines in Oregon's County Assessment Function Funding Assistance (CAFFA) program has left county assessors and tax collectors with dwindling financial support for doing critical county services, which has resulted in millions of dollars of property tax values missing from county tax rolls.

In Washington County, this lack of revenue is being felt strongly to the tune of a current \$20 million budget deficit which our Commissioners have been weighing as they decide upon the new fiscal year's budget. This lack of revenue has been the result of critical problems with the funding formula which was last updated in 1999. However, HB 3518 and the -2 amendment presents the County with an alternative, better supported path to do this critical work.

Namely, HB 3518 and the -2 amendment will result in:

- Promising results for local governments:
  - o \$300 million more in annual revenue for taxing districts within 6-8 years
  - o Better budgeting through assisting local taxing districts with their budget process through improved estimate of future property tax revenues
- Promising results for educational districts:
  - o A 3:1 return on investment for school and educational districts
  - o Within 6-8 years, \$240m per biennium for schools

HB 3518 and the -2 amendment are a win for school districts, local governments and all Oregonians. As a result, I urge your support of HB 3518 and the -2 amendment.

Warmly,

Zakir Khan  
Government Relations Manager  
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