

Submitter: Thomas Karwaki
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4084
House Committee on Revenue
HB 4084-A Support

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

As a retired economic development director, I support the testimony of Blair Sundell and the SORED. His concerns about the impacts on this bill even with this amendment that provides a ten-year limit on the Enterprise Zone property tax exemptions is valid. Just as the Federal HB-1 will devastate Oregon's future revenues, so HB 4084A will stress local counties and tax districts. Blair Sundell suggests that the state create a revenue-sharing or backfill mechanism for the counties and tax districts similar to the Strategic Investment Program. I agree that this would be equitable and might reduce the local subsidies for large investments that do not generate significant jobs and may raise utility rates.

I support the permit streamlining process within HB 4084-A, which is why I urge the committee to pass this bill as amended, understanding that the committee may want to hold oversight hearings on its implementation during the odd year sessions.