

Submitter: Troy Gulstrom

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Revenue

Measure: HB3446

My name is Troy Gulstrom and I live in the Santiam Canyon Area. Even though I was not personally harmed by the Fires of September 2020, seven families in my church lost their homes and everything they owned except for the clothes on their back. Several others in our church lost outbuildings and timber. I write today in SUPPORT of HB3446.

Since early on, I have had the honor to serve on two citizen led committees helping to guide the rebuild of our communities in the Santiam Canyon. In this effort I have had opportunity to have a front row seat in the painstaking work of our people rebuilding their lives. All of the homeowners have seen that the insurance coverage they had was not nearly enough to offset the rising costs of materials and labor. Most would blame the effects of the pandemic for this rise in costs. They have watched as government promised money to rebuild only to find that those funds often time were so entangled in red tape that the help never came. Even within our own state agencies we have seen dollars promised and never released. To say people are frustrated is an understatement. Then they get their property tax bill and see huge increases. It seems to be one gut-punch after another.

Thank you Rep. Ed Diehl for introducing this bill to give relief to people who have gone through so much in the last 2 1/2 yrs. Please vote yes to pass this bill in committee and on the floor. The people of Oregon deserve this tax relief.

Thank you for reading this letter of testimony.

Troy Gulstrom