

September 18, 2013

Dear Senator Kruse:

I am VERY disappointed in your vote supporting HB3453. I was under the impression that we voted for you to represent the people in your district. You are not only disregarding the people that you were sent to serve but that legislation goes against our Oregon Constitution that states that taxation should only occur when three fifths of all members of each house vote for an increase. (Article IV—Legislative Branch Section 25). By passing this bill, you have given the power of taxation to the Governor and to the County Commissioners. This DOES NOT sound like representative government to me.

One of the big reasons that the people in Curry County voted against the tax levy was because they feel that all necessary steps to “live within their means” have not been taken. Two examples of this are: (1) The County is paying the 6% employee portion of PERS and (2) The County is paying too much for employee health care.

I realize that this bill may have passed without your vote and that you may have been one of the few legislators voting against it. This is NOT a reason to vote for the bill. It’s important to do what is right for the people and fight for it even if the majority is against you.

I would appreciate it if you could give me some rational reasons for your support of this bill.

Sincerely,

(VERY concerned citizen)