

RAQUEL MOORE-GREEN
STATE REPRESENTATIVE, District 19
South Salem, Turner, and Aumsville



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Date June 26, 2020

Timothy G. Sekerak
Chief Clerk of the House
State Capitol Building, H-271
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Vote Explanation SB 1603

Dear Chief Clerk Sekerak,

Today I voted No on SB 1603 for several reasons. I believe that we should be addressing Oregon's expected 2.7 B dollar short fall during this short session – to put off doing so is fiscally irresponsible. Before we ask Oregonians to pay more by passing a surcharge increase, or a tax which seems more appropriate, we should take care of our fiscal duties.

I agree with my colleague Senator Fred Girod, "The legislative process has not only been taken away from Oregonians, but now they must absorb a new tax when they are living in an economic shutdown. Democrats are spending money the state doesn't have. This is a tax, and I think Oregon deserves better."

The Emergency Board recently allocated \$20 million to broadband. I believe we should see how that money is spent before taking more money from hardworking Oregonians. During this economically challenging time for Oregonians we should not be adding an additional burden.

I stand with my colleagues from rural Oregon, "You know something is wrong with a bill when senators like me that represent rural Oregonians voted no," said Senator Lynn Findley (R-Vale). "My constituents cannot afford another tax on their livelihoods, especially when the Emergency Board just allocated \$20 million in funds to broadband without any plan on what projects the money will go to."

Sincerely,

rmg

Representative Raquel Moore-Green
HD 19
Salem, Aumsville & Turner