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DAS Procurement Practices Audit Reveals Substantial Government Waste and Mismanagement

Salem, Ore. - Today, Secretary of State Dennis Richardson released the results of an audit on the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) and their procurement practices.

Today's audit revealed that DAS could have saved as much as \$1.6 billion if they had purchasing policies in place that that kept the state budget and taxpayers in mind. The unfunded portion of the budget that is currently being used to explain the need for increased taxes is \$623 million.

"This is another huge example of how in Oregon, revenue is not the problem, spending is the problem," said Senator Herman Baertschiger, Jr. (R-Grants Pass). "Let's take a good hard look at government spending and clean up practices at the state."

The audit shows systemic issues with procurement practices across state agencies. Currently there is no standardized procurement system in place, but the adoption of a statewide eProcurement system, such as OregonBuys, could save the state millions of dollars while providing the necessary data needed to analyze statewide spending practices. To read the full audit report, click <u>here</u>.