

SB 97 Proponent Testimony – written only
Eliminate 1.5 mills property tax for state buildings
Senate Assessment & Taxation Committee
Dave Trabert – CEO
February 1, 2023



Madam Chair and Members of the Committee,

We appreciate this opportunity to submit written testimony in support of SB 97, which eliminates 1.5 mills of property tax for maintenance of state buildings and universities. The money would instead be available through the regular appropriations process.

According to the Department of Revenue, the state collected a little over \$61 million in 2021 from the 1.5 mills of property tax. That's not a lot of property tax relief overall, but every dollar counts to people who are being taxed out of their homes.

Transparency is another winner with SB 97. Currently, taxpayers don't see how much money is spent on building maintenance because the funding is a transfer 'off the top' of tax collections. Going forward, funding for building maintenance would go through the appropriations process and be debated by the Legislature.

For these reasons of tax savings and transparency, we encourage you to recommend the bill favorably for passage.

Thank you for your consideration.