

Phillips Carol

MEASURE: HJR 14
EXHIBIT: W
HOUSE REVENUE COMMITTEE
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SUBMITTED BY: MERVYN CLOE

From: Mervyn Cloe [grnbrven@charter.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2011 3:18 PM
To: LRO
Subject: HJR 14 Proposed Property Tax Increase for Schools

Revenue Committee
Dear Representatives:

Subject: HJR 14 Proposed Property Tax Increase for Schools

As I read this proposed change to Oregon's Constitution, the increase would require voter approval. That puts the voters in charge of taxes levied against their property. I think it would be good for Oregon to have individual voters become involved by having to approve any tax increase.

I can recall that at one time all school budgets required voter approval. This meant trips through the rain to the polling place, but that is now my living room! So I think voters should come back to a position of controlling tax levies.

It was a big mistake to grant a tax base plus 6% if needed. They always needed it and in only eleven years this doubles the budget. This went on in Oregon for over thirty years before they cranked the plus back to 3%. Is there any wonder why we are in trouble financially?

I think that each year's budgeting should be zero based and also require voter approval! We will never get things straightened out until this happens!

I have replied because you should have the benefit of my 61 years of Oregon voting experience.

Mervyn E Cloe, a native Oregonian
In Reedsport at the time!