

Phillips Carol

From: LRO
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2011 8:41 AM
To: Phillips Carol
Subject: FW: Amendment to Oregon Constitution

Not sure which bill this testimony applies to.

Corinne Gavette
Office Manager
Legislative Revenue Office
(503) 986-1266

From: Mitch Jones [<mailto:free2drum75@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2011 9:59 PM
To: LRO
Subject: Amendment to Oregon Constitution

Dear Representatives,

I am writing about the proposed amendment to Oregon Constitution to allow common school districts and union high school districts to impose taxes to fund public school system at maximum allow rate of \$6.50 per \$1,0000 of property's real market value or \$7.50 per \$1,0000 of property's real market value if district submits question of rate to voters.

I am currently unemployed after 13 years of service at Hewlett Packard in Corvallis Oregon. My Job was eliminated, unfortunately. I can not afford ANY increases let alone to a union run Public education system especially after a recent kidney transplant. Maybe if the schools were paying and eliminating/hiring teaching according to PERFORMANCE I might feel differently. I know the magnitude of the things I say as a family member is a teacher in Oregon's system.

The nations attitude is swinging around, we have contributed ALL that most of us can afford. An example might be what just happened to Mayor Alvarez in Florida, 88% of the people are ousting him for trying to raise property taxes while raising pay for public union workers at the same time.

Here in Oregon the general public pays outrageous rates to fund PERS while those same people make up to 42% more than their counterpart non union folks. They need to pay more of their PERS burden for sure.

The answer is a negotiated reduction in Oregon's budget! Plain and simple. And further more it is my understanding that Oregon Schools are definitely well funded compared to other states. Let's make some changes that reward the performers before we throw more and more money at the system.

Thank You very much for your time.

Sincerely,
Mitchel Jones
Albany, Or.