

To: Sen Richard Devlin, Rep Dan Rayfield, Sen Ginny Burdick, Sen Jackie Winters, Rep Nancy Nathanson, and Rep Greg Smith:

I am concerned that the legislative committee tasked with writing a ballot title and explanatory statement are not using the word "tax" and instead using the word "assessment" for Referendum 301 as indicated in the opinion piece on Oregon Live (see link below).

I know that there had to be a super majority to pass this legislation, indicating that it was a tax...plus the referendum had to be voted on in January because it was a tax.

Using the word "assessment" instead of the word "tax" is kind of like the FBI using the word "matter" instead of the word "investigation". The intent must be questioned.

If the Committee is not using the word tax, it is dishonest and I believe a possible ethics issue. Speaker Kotek already violated the rules by not talking with minority leadership regarding the membership on the committee.

Please rethink this issue and be honest with voters before it is too late. As a member of this committee, you must be transparent and truthful as you write the ballot title and explanatory statement.

http://www.oregonlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2017/09/call_the_health_care_tax_what.html

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