

You have before you today a budget that cuts nearly \$10 million from the Department of Revenue, the cash register for the state. Some bits and pieces are from legitimate savings and efficiencies, but normally you would take those dollars and put them into enforcement and collections. Instead the budget cuts money for staff in the corporate, personal income tax and property tax divisions. And this nearly \$10 million in cuts, property invested in enforcement, will typically return \$50 million or more. This just is not the department to cut, particularly when the back-up federal tax enforcers are seeing their budget slashed.

But this set of cuts, along with many others you are discussing today are not needed. There is a set of tax breaks, designed for wealthy taxpayers, that passed as part of the CARES Act that are now a part of Oregon's tax code. These are new tax breaks you've never discussed. There are actually about a dozen changes. We think you should focus on disconnecting from the first four, and if you do, there will an extra \$250 million to spend in this biennium's budget along with lesser amounts in the coming two biennia.

[LRO has described these measures](#), and their cuts to our budget which are in the revenue forecast. Please, you should be insisting that these four measure be removed from our tax code, this year, so that the cuts you are looking at today are not all necessary.

Submitted by Jody Wiser on behalf of Tax Fairness Oregon