

To Senator Mark Haas, Chair of Senate Finance and Review Committee
Members of the Senate Finance and Review Committee
From: Elaine Woods
Re: SJR 23

Chair Haas:

I am appalled at the boldness with which this year's legislature is stealing from the citizens of Oregon. Not only is the legislature neglecting financial stewardship by using the eProcurement system recommended by the late Secretary of State's audit, which would balance our state budget without tax increases, you are now stealing from us our overpayment of taxes to you.

First HB 2975 was passed by the House, lessening the amount you deign to give back to us even though this return of our overpayment to you is mandated by our State Constitution to keep in check in some way the possible over-spending by elected legislators.

Now SJR 23 is before your committee, taking away our rightful repayment completely. This is nothing less than highway robbery, done in quick order with the probable hopes that the citizens of Oregon wouldn't notice. We notice and are outraged at your audacity!

I not only ask, I demand that you do the right thing by the people you represent. My husband and I are on a fixed income and have no hopes of an increase in our income. With all the bills that are planned by the Democrat majority to raise taxes and fees you will bankrupt this citizenry.

Last Sunday the Oregonian printed an article stating that more than 156,000 people in Oregon are on the verge of bankruptcy and losing their homes if they were to have a medical emergency or auto accident. You claim that you are concerned about the homeless situation, yet you will be increasing the homeless population in Oregon by your foolish spending. This is without fixing core issues like PERS which need your attention, as it will increasingly to rob the coffers of city and county governments and our school systems.

I will be watching your votes in the coming days, taking note of them for the next election. Please vote NO on SJR 34.

Sincerely,

Elaine Woods
Beaverton