

From: [Brad Twiss](#)
To: [LRO](#)
Subject: HJR 203
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2020 2:17:05 PM

Chair Nathanson and Members of the House Revenue Committee,

I am writing in support of HJR 203 as a homeowner, real estate agent, business owner, and landlord in Portland. I would like to thank you all in advance for your thoughtful consideration of this matter.

As a real estate professional, it is often assumed that I would be opposed to anything that could create a financial burden on my industry. However, I believe we must look at the bigger picture and what's best for the communities that we serve.

Many, including the trade associations of which I am a member, will say this would only make housing in Oregon less affordable. However, the average home price in Oregon is \$364,382 (according to Zillow). I believe a marginal tax on any amount over \$500,000 will not cause an undue burden on home buyers or sellers, especially when considering the positive impact funds allocated for homeless prevention could have on our cities.

While I am a member of the industry largely supportive of this preemption on transfer tax, that is not for our (or any) industry to decide. We're simply talking about modifying a preemption that's currently in our state constitution. The final determination is for the people of Oregon to decide by vote.

Thank you again for your consideration,

Brad Twiss (*he/him*)
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