

I strongly oppose this bill.

It seems to me that bills are passed which raise additional taxes and direct where the monies are supposed to go. Then once the taxes are passed, you, the legislature want to change where that money is spent.

Measure 91 was referred to the Oregon Voters and passed. It directed where the monies collected were to be spent. We voted on that. Yes, we wanted that money to go to schools. (I do find it almost comical that drug money is going to schools - remember kids, don't do drugs - well at least till you are 21 and then we can get more money from taxes off of your "soft" drug use, so that we can create drug rehab programs to help you get off the drugs!) We then voted on Measure 110. You had hidden in the full transcript of the measure that some of the money was to be siphoned off for other uses. Now you want to siphon even more money away from where it was originally supposed to go. We hear almost every day how the schools need more money not less. Stop with the tinkering.

I also strongly oppose what you are calling equity. Merriam-Webster defines equity as: dealing fairly and EQUALLY with all concerned. It is not equitable to treat some people differently - charge someone less - erase a crime due to skin color or heritage. History tells us that giving special treatment to a select group of people only creates division, unrest and violence. This last year has been a perfect example.

Stop advocating division. Be a unifying force. We NEED unity.