

Submitter: Donna Bleiler

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Human Services

Measure: HB4079

I STRONGLY OPPOSE HB 4079

This bill establishes an illegal 3% sales tax to fund \$750 monthly debit cards to the homeless and people under the poverty level. You can't fool voters of the intent to expand the tax once passed and shifted benefits to a broader base. Once passed with 60% vote it only takes 50% to raise the tax.

The Oregon Freedom Pilot Program isn't really a pilot once the program is implemented. Raising new taxes before removing special corporate welfare afforded to large companies if overtaxing one group of businesses while lavishing tax breaks to another is unfair.

Oregon State Government is already the 4th fattest and 4th biggest state spending state government in America as measured by per-person spending. This is on top of the billion surplus stashed into a slush fund last year that could be used.

Offering monthly \$750 debit cards to people (homeless, pregnant, etc), will attract people from out of state, just like other welfare benefits have done. The Atlantic Magazine called Oregon a "Welfare Utopia". We are famous nationwide for our welfare benefits. This is overwhelming our our social services, charities, and local governments, and is forcing government to raise taxes even higher.