

Submitter: Scott Guphill  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Human Services  
Measure: HB4079

Let my voice be heard that I do not want House Bill 4079 to get out of committee.

The Department of Revenue does not need the added responsibility required to monitor and collect this 3% luxury tax.

In the brief statement it states, "Establishes Oregon Freedom Pilot Program in Department of Human Services to provide monthly stipends to low income families. Sunsets December 31, 2026. Imposes sales and use tax on sales of certain luxury goods. Establishes Oregon Freedom Pilot Program Fund and continuously appropriates money in funds to the Department of Human Service for the purpose of implementing Oregon Freedom Pilot Program. Provides for General Administration, collection and enforcement of taxes by the Department of Revenue."

The Bill pulls at the heart strings of helping our fellow Oregonians in their time of need, assisting those families living below the poverty line. Funds that will be taken from those who can afford luxury items to be used for a \$750 monthly stipend card, similar to the SNAP program, for low-income families and pregnant women. Sounds so noble of the state of Oregon taking care of its low income to provide for a living wage.

Yet as I read through the 13 page document, modeled after a similar California measure passed in 2021, it describes how to collect the Sales Tax and I can imagine the additional workload it will add administering this program.

Oregon voters through the Ballot Box have continually voted down a Sales Tax. If passed, HB 4079 will not die on December 31, 2026. Remnants will live on beginning January 1, 2027. As an individual, you may be a member of the legislative body to make sure it does not continue, however those that follow only have to say "let's extend this measure."

It will have a fiscal impact on the citizens of Oregon and another stream of revenue for the state of Oregon that has not demonstrated a stellar record of managing resources for the underserved in the past. This Bill will add more bureaucracy in the Department of Human Services to administer another program distributing money to the low-income of our state.

The State of Oregon through the Department of Human Services administers programs to assist the low income, the Federal Government administers programs to

aid this population. I would ask that programs available now be monitored, fine tuned to eliminate waste and duplication before another program, HB 4079, is added.

My well is running dry. I was born and raised in Oregon and it is great not to pay a Sales Tax. Everytime I look at a City or Utility bill, another tax is added.

Again, I ask that you let HB 4079 die in committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Guptill