

Submitter: Beth Jones

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Human Services

Measure: HB4079

I strongly oppose HB 4079.

I worked for over a decade as the director of a non-profit for low-income families. The stated purpose of this bill is to help low-income people "live in dignity" but nothing about living on government payouts provides a person dignity. Work, not more welfare, gives dignity. This state needs to stop penalizing work. A sales tax will not go away or decrease - ever.

Moreover, the goal of this program (to live in dignity and meet basic needs) is not measurable. Those terms are not defined and there is NO requirement that people use the \$750/month payments to "meet basic needs." How ironic that these payments can be used for anything - even the "luxuries" hard-working Oregonians paid taxes for to supply these payments.