

Submitter: June Sanders  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Human Services  
Measure: HB4079

To the House Committee on Human Services:

We should not want to create a new tax during a time when far too many Oregon families are still struggling to make ends meet and inflation is eating away more of their paychecks. Cattle prices are down, expenses are up, and the state hasn't recovered from the pandemic. You couldn't pick a worse time to propose a sales tax of any amount.

This proposal should be trashed for the following reasons:

- 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 they stashed into a slush fund last year. Knowing this, why don't you use it instead of raising new taxes?
- Instead of raising new punishing taxes on vulnerable industries and their customers, why shouldn't government first remove the special corporate welfare it affords to large companies and Hollywood film companies. Overtaxing one group of businesses while lavishing tax breaks to another is unfair.
- This bill is a Trojan horse and a spring-loaded tax trap. To pass any new tax the law requires a 60% vote for new taxes. However, once a tax is approved, the politicians will (illegally, unlawfully, fraudulently) expand it next year with only 50% vote. It is a ruse to avoid the 60% tax law approved by voters in the Constitution. Today, the tax stands at 3%, yet next year it could be changed to 10%. As said, once this tax trap is passed, it will take LESS votes to increase it and LESS votes to expand it. This needs to be stopped now.
- Once you start offering monthly \$750 debit cards to people (homeless, pregnant, etc), word will spread, and it will attract people who do not need it, 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 social services and our charities and is forcing government to raise taxes even higher.

This proposal will create more problems than it solves, so now is the time to trash it.

Respectfully,  
June Sanders