

Submitter: Melissa Burlingame
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Human Services
Measure: HB4079

Dear Representatives:

I am emailing to urge you not to pass HB 4079.

Oregon is one of the biggest spending state in America. Before posing a new sales tax on Oregonian I'd like to see a list provided on all the current programs being funded for the homeless or those living under the poverty line, aged out foster care children, single pregnant women who are under the poverty line. Then determine of those programs which are successful. Those that aren't, determine why not and if it is worth continuing those programs. If not transfer those funds to the population you want to assist in the HB 4079.

Has anyone on this committee looked into organizations who are assisting the aged out foster children and pregnant women under the overture line? Instead of recreating the wheel or starting a new program, reach out to those organizations who are successfully helping those groups and perhaps assist those organizations in their cause with the surplus of money that was put in the slush fund last year instead of adding sales taxes.

Have you considered first removing the special corporate welfare it provides to large companies and Hollywood film companies. Those big corporations make billions of dollars and can afford the cost. It is unfair to target tax paying individuals who can afford items HB 4079 considers luxury items.

Before posing or considering adding a sales tax we need to evaluate the programs that are already in place.

Regards,
Melissa Burlingame