

Submitter: Alan Ertle

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Human Services

Measure: HB4079

Chair Williams, Vice Chair Ruiz, Vice Chair Scharf and Members of the House Committee on Human Services,

I am writing to express my extreme opposition to HB 4079. Oregon has very high income tax rates and very high property tax rates which have markedly increased over the last two years. Oregon's population has also dramatically increased as has the number of housing units (Oregon's population in 2010 was 3,831,074 and is now 4,325,290 in 2022 which is an increase of 494,216). This means that income tax revenues and property tax revenues have also dramatically increased. I am sure that homeless populations have also increased. However, the issues of homelessness were never addressed by imposing yet another tax on Oregon taxpayers. I think that it is far more appropriate to reassess other funded programs to truly determine if the intended outcomes of the funded program are meeting their goals, and if not, reallocate monies to address homelessness. It is completely inappropriate for our legislators to first think of a new tax on already burdened Oregon taxpayers and not think of ways to more appropriately spend monies already collected from Oregon taxpayers. Yes, it is hard to evaluate and determine whether funded programs are really doing what was intended, but that is EXACTLY why you were elected and not to burden Oregon taxpayers any further. HB 4079 should not be moved out of your committee.

Respectfully,

Alan Ertle

Klamath Falls, Oregon