

Submitter: Corey Boaz
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Human Services
Measure: HB4011

All,

As an Oregon resident of 31 years, and a small business owner in Oregon for the past 9 years, I feel that the state of Oregon is making strides toward pushing hard working blue collar individuals out. As it is we are among the highest taxed in the entire country, and for what reason? Our schools are struggling, our police system is grossly under funded/not supported, and to be honest the rest of the country views us as a joke. There was once a time where I was proud to call Oregon home, but after Governor Brown has misrepresented us, and made us look a fool, I am no longer proud. I have traveled the entire country working, and I can honestly say that I have not felt the division or discontent that I feel in Oregon.

This bill among many others directly goes against what the blue collar class wants. We are constantly being taxed to death, with literally zero representation of our values and beliefs. Oregon has opportunity that is greater than the vast majority of the states, but instead our business owners/large tax paying individuals are being driven out of the state in an attempt to seek proper representation of their beliefs.

I am strongly opposing this bill, and any other bill that involves taxing the middle and upper classes, in a desperate attempt to preserve the limited amount of business that this state still holds.

Our state representatives have a duty to serve the people, and the vast majority of you have failed time and time again. When will we decide to come together and vote on what is best for the majority, and not cater to those who would rather live a life of homelessness?

To give a little back story, I was raised in a family that did not have a great deal of money, but what we lacked in assets, we made up for in work ethic and desire to succeed. I attended Western Oregon University on an academic scholarship, but soon realized that I would no longer be able to attend because I had a duty to my country and my family. My wife became pregnant at 19 years old. We worked hard, 70+ hours a week so that we never needed support. I now own multiple businesses, and have a beautiful family of 5 with one more on the way. Never have I been a burden to society. Never have I succumbed to a life of drug and alcohol.

The point is this. We are all blessed to live in a country where if you can dream it, with enough hard work, you can achieve it. I take great pride in helping others, and have made it my life goal to improve the lives of those around me, but the difference

is I help those who deserve the help. Oregon has become a state that rewards laziness and punishes those who have a desire to succeed, and it is time that the tables were turned. Force people to succeed. Hold people accountable for their actions. Do not continue to reward individuals who don't want to work. For god sake clean up our parks and city streets so that I once again feel safe sending my pregnant wife out to let our children play in public places.

Corey Boaz