

Submitter: Joe Buford

On Behalf Of: Myself

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

Measure: HJR23

Honorable Representatives,

This letter is in OPPOSITION to HJR 23.

Once again liberal lawmakers are trying to increase revenue to the State of Oregon by stealing from the taxpayers.

Oregon is already the number ONE state in taxation of the middle class (7.75 effective tax rate on \$75k income). Not content with being in the TOP 5 states on TOTAL taxation, the Liberals want to steal the Kicker Tax refund due next year. This is MANDATED by the state constitution to be refunded but it seems that every 2 years we go thru this charade again. Salem wanting to add to the taxes already paid by illegally retaining monies that, by your OWN estimates, are to be refunded BACK to the People!

Referring this to the people is not a viable way to steal this, as liberals have shown the population centers how to vote themselves, as Robert Heinlein said, "bread and circuses".

The budget proposed by Gov. Kotek is over \$74 BILLION per year, with more money being spent on WELFARE than on K-12 public education. In addition, liberals want to create the first True welfare state by also using taxes (on those working) to cover everyone, working or not, with a state provided health plan. For those of us that have seen both Medicare and the VA, we know the cost of govt. provided ANYTHING! Once again, I OPPOSE ANY Change to the "Kicker" that reduces the refund to Taxpayers.

If we do not rein in those that would, for political power, vote in policies that destroy business (yes, I'm talking about Portland), that will tax to extinction the middle class, and will only profit those in Politics that want to feed at the public trough, then I weep for the future of our state

Joe Buford