

Submitter: Sara Fronk
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HJR201

Oregon currently maintains one of the highest state tax burdens. The proposal to implement comprehensive taxation at a rate subjectively determined lacks merit, particularly considering the existing inadequacies in utilizing state funds to ensure the safety of our current residents. The city of Portland is experiencing significant challenges in terms of cleanliness and public safety, exacerbated by a perceived lack of effective policing and safety measures. The notion of further financial imposition amidst such circumstances is concerning, especially given the evident misallocation of funds. This approach appears contrary to the principles outlined in the Oregon Constitution. It's notable that the majority of Oregonians, with the exception of residents in specific counties, namely Clackamas, Multnomah, Washington, Marion, and Lane, do not endorse this proposed measure. Such significant policy changes warrant direct democratic involvement through a voting process rather than unilateral decisions by lawmakers. If this proposal is enacted, it will significantly escalate the cost of living in Oregon, rendering it unaffordable for many working families and potentially prompting migration out of the state. In conclusion, HJR 201 represents a considerable overreach by legislators and lacks the support of the people of Oregon.