

Submitter: Don Saleski
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HJR201

I am submitting this testimony in strong opposition of HJR 201. As an Albany resident of Benton County, my property taxes are already among the highest in the state, last year north of \$7400 for 2023-24. Consequently, I am compelled to continue working past a reasonable retirement age just to stay in my house. Now the state of Oregon wants to raise taxes again? How much higher can they go before you take every last dime we make?!! This is slavery in covert form! Every year they go up without even the slightest consideration for a residents ability to pay these ridiculously high taxes. Passage of this bill will impose a burden on property owners that already are finding it hard to make ends meet. I own my home, and have a reasonable income. Yet both my wife and I must work full time just to make a meager attempt to save, and we are in no way spendthrifts, and we have to watch every dollar we earn. High fuel prices, widespread rampant inflation, egregious state and federal tax burden swallow up financial security in retirement that all people should be able to gather together. I am not encouraged by X-tweets by this governor about drug treatment facilities and honoring Indian tribes with no mention of the difficulties regular citizens shoulder in the current economic environment. On top of the obvious homelessness and drug abuse issues which do nothing to recommend this state to begin with, increasing taxes, and therefore the cost of living, will make Oregon even less attractive to prospective business and residents. That said, HJR 201 will simply be another nail in the coffin for Oregon as a viable place to live. Stop imposing new taxes on Oregon citizens.