

Submitter: Maynard Freemole
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HJR201

This bill seems to be a bad idea for several reasons: One is that it removes local control from counties and cities in favor of more centralized control. If we must pay increasingly high taxes due to market conditions, for example, those taxes should directly benefit our communities, not other communities at our expense. Another is that it would raise tax rates for those of us who are challenged each year to meet that burden already.

Public safety is an important service. However, the legislature should consider other funding sources such as taxing corporations and wealthy individuals and families. The last time the U.S. had a truly "lift all boats" economy was in the 1950s, when corporate taxes were relatively low (though many were higher than at present) and relatively high (especially compared to today) for the upper 10-20% of incomes. This produced more real investment in and growth for corporations, which then led to more and better-paid employment and a more equitable economy, not one that promotes greater inequality and more concentration of wealth and power--e.g. private equity and interest only in the bottom line. (Consider Boeing's recent problems: a good company, run successfully by engineers and ruined by profit-only oriented MBAs.) Adjust those taxes!--not the property tax.

Finally, shouldn't such tinkering with property taxes be an issue for all citizens of voting age, not just those in the legislature?

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