

Submitter: Betty Peters  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Rules  
Measure: HJR201

I oppose HJR201 because the Legislature cannot or will not limit their spending in the same way I as a property owner limit my spending.

I've worked since 1975 contributing my share of taxes to the State of Oregon. I've purchased property in Oregon and paid property taxes, voting for some increases as well as against others. It is outrageous that in a State that does NOT have a "population explosion", in fact it has declined the last 2 years. Salem needs to operate efficiently within budgeted expenses. The current "kick back" amounts are testimony that this State can budget. But all the Governor and Legislature pursue is more and more in taxes. Giving the Legislature the option to add a NEW STATEWIDE TAX is like offering a child cake for breakfast. They simply cannot resist. All on the backs of responsible property owners who have worked their entire lives to have the security of property ownership.

Property taxes belong to the cities/counties where the property owners have a say in where and how the taxes are spent. The city of Gresham currently is trying to increase property tax by \$1.50 per \$1,000. Now you want another \$1.00 on top of that. I CANNOT AFFORD IT! And neither can others I know. I'm retired and too old to get a job.

HJR201 is a direct assault on those of us who have said no to many things in our lives in order to have the security of our own home. We worked for it and want to enjoy it in our remaining years.