

Submitter: Jack Holt  
On Behalf Of: self  
Committee: House Committee On Rules  
Measure: HJR201

Rules Committee Representatives. I strongly oppose the proposed statewide property tax HJR 201 Please consider the following during your deliberations.

\* The tax appears to be little more than additional taxes looking for a justifying cause. The causes suggested are frosting with precious little cake. "Taxing for the sake of taxing."

\* We are perplexed with the high cost of housing in Oregon and the effect it has on all demographics. Fixed income seniors, first time home buyers, and every home owner in between are pinched directly, while renters feel it indirectly.. It puts a squeeze on most and makes everyone question remaining in Oregon.

\* Consider the tax paid and cost of living in Oregon compared compared to income levels. Oregon is hovering right around 3rd highest of ALL states. This tax does little more than widen the gap between the haves and the have nots.

The citizens of Oregon voted for Measure 5. They have voted against every effort at imposing a sales tax that they could vote on. The indirect CAT tax was a non-referred tax that shows up in a very high percentage of what consumers buy. It has been a lesson not lost on citizens, taxpayers and voters. HJR 201 is a slap in the face to Oregon property owners, and steps into the realm of Counties and Cities who are closer to and responsive to local needs and taxpayers.

\* Oregon has taken in more tax receipts than projected. Prioritizing where and how funds are spent is in order. Simply spending more than you did last year is not in order. Allocations of money seem baked into the cake and cannot go away or be reduced, with the only option being "we need more money." It is time to prioritize and spend wisely, with the citizen in mind. Budget meaningfully and get Oregon state government operating effectively.

Respectfully submitted. Jack Holt