

John Brannigan

Subject: Opposition to House Joint Resolution 201 - Proposed State Property Tax for Public Safety Funding

I am writing to express my strong opposition to House Joint Resolution 201, as a Salem homeowner, which proposes a state property tax for funding public safety in Oregon. As a concerned citizen, I believe that this resolution would disproportionately impact individuals like myself – a person over 65, a veteran, and on a fixed income.

While I understand the importance of funding public safety, I am deeply concerned about the financial burden that this proposed state property tax would place on individuals who are already facing economic challenges, especially those in my demographic. As a veteran, I have dedicated a significant portion of my life to serving and protecting our country. Now, in my retirement years, I find myself navigating a fixed income, carefully managing my resources to cover essential needs.

The proposed tax, as outlined in House Joint Resolution 201, lacks sufficient consideration for the financial constraints faced by seniors, veterans, and those living on fixed incomes. Imposing an additional tax on real and personal property, regardless of its nature, could lead to increased financial hardship for individuals in my situation. It is essential to recognize that fixed incomes do not readily accommodate unforeseen financial obligations.

Furthermore, the potential annual rate of \$0.25 per \$1,000 of property value, as specified in the resolution, raises concerns about the cumulative impact on property owners. While public safety is undoubtedly a priority, it is crucial to explore alternative funding mechanisms that do not disproportionately affect vulnerable populations.

I urge you to reconsider the implications of House Joint Resolution 201 on seniors, veterans, and individuals on fixed incomes. I believe that a more equitable solution can be devised, one that ensures adequate funding for public safety without unduly burdening those who are already economically vulnerable.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my concerns. I trust that you will represent the best interests of all Oregonians, including those who may be adversely affected by this proposed state property tax.

Sincerely,

John Brannigan