

Submitter: Karen Shrader
On Behalf Of: Self
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HJR201

I strongly oppose HJR 201. A statewide property tax is unconscionable. My county is Jackson County. Jackson County operates with a balanced budget with prudent reserves. Many counties do operate with a balanced budget. It is extremely unreasonable to let the State of Oregon step in and destroy what is working in many counties.

A statewide property tax would create another UNELECTED agency with power to make rules and raise taxes. Only the elected legislators should make rules and the voters only have the power to raise taxes.

To protect homeowners from being taxed out of their homes, the Oregon Constitution caps property tax increases. The Oregon Constitution also mandates taxation measures be brought to the people for a vote.

When I wrote to Representative Pam Marsh about the five recommendations to raise new revenue for the state, Representative March assured me on February 1, 2024 with the following statement: "I can assure you that none of these proposals are going to be considered in the short session that starts on Monday."

A state wide property tax was the second recommendation listed of the five recommendations.

Representative Marsh must have realized that a statewide property tax would violate what the voters approved for short sessions. A statewide property tax is new business. A statewide property tax is an abuse of the short session.

HJR 201 must be defeated.