

Submitter: Katherine Beymer  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Rules  
Measure: HJR201

Hello,

I strongly oppose the state wide property tax. I volunteer a lot of time in my community. I see how much our currently high property tax & income tax rates are hurting Oregonians. Oregonians are already facing so many 3rd party taxes and a huge rise in utility rates. We cannot afford any more taxes.

I also see on a city level how much money is completely wasted. I'm always shocked at how many people involved in distributing tax payer funds, act like it grows on trees. They are wasteful spenders and do not think outside of the box for other ideas. Spending tax payer funds should have more restrictions than it does.

Many property owners in Oregon are long time residents. Many barely can afford the county taxes on their homes. With the economy the way it is and inflation on the rise, we need our state government to be stepping up to protect Oregonians from loosing their homes & properties.

I'm a 4th Generation Oregonian & my kids are 5th. I live in one of the highest taxed neighborhoods in Portland. Which coincidentally is also one of the most diverse neighborhoods in all of Oregon.

The high tax rates in my area show a lot of turn over and long time residents & family's not being able to keep their homes any more. It is so sad. They have also been here for generations but no longer can afford to live here as the generations before then could. Tax rates are to blame.

I know that if this state tax passes, we will loose more Oregonians. They will not be able to afford their homes taxes or utilities any longer.

I see so much out of state cash come in to buy Oregon properties & land. A statewide tax will just open the flood gates for more out of state owners again.

So I ask you this, why is the government not focused on protecting our long term residents and our long term businesses?

There are plenty of funds that are allocated to public saftey. But they are not handled properly. It is absolutely necessary that these funds be reevaluated for proper management. This should be the key to the problem, solve the current root issues of

poorly allocated funds and unnecessary spending.

There is no reason to expand government in order to have more funds at the cost of property owners. We all know this doesn't just hurt property owners but it hurts tenants as well. It will push out our long time residents that have been here for generations.

The story about landlords that is constantly painted is they are rich. I don't know many rich landlords. Most of them are just barely getting by but trying to retain their v homes or family properties. These new taxes will trickle down to tenants or risk loosing current rental properties as well.

In order to help people, more money is not the answer. Community involvement is. There is so much more you can do before you even think about a statewide property tax.

I strongly oppose amending the constitution.

Please, please remember that you are representing all Oregonians. You are our voice. Please use what you have to help us and not ask more to hurt us. Oregonians can't take another tax.

The last thing we need is a larger government in Oregon. We need leadership. The current issues need to be reorganized & unraveled.

If Oregonians need to cut back on our spending in times like this, so should our government.

Utalize community outreach. Use neighborhood associations. Use volunteer organizations. Use leaders who can tighten a budget. Cut out unnecessary spending. Create low cost programs that actually help people.

Thank you for your time.