

Submitter: Lucy Kennedy-Wong
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB380

Dear Committee Members,

My name is Lucy Kennedy-Wong and I live in Portland, OR. I am writing in opposition to SB 380 as I understand there is a general hearing for SB 380, 405, 648, and 764. I am truly baffled at these potential bills. Why would we add additional exemptions to Oregon's estate tax when it is already too high? We are facing a budget shortfall in Oregon, and I have seen that repeated at my own county and city level. Since our infrastructure is crumbling and there are still thousands of people in the state who are houseless, we should be looking for additional revenue rather than trying to cut it. In particular, why should ordinary Oregonians pay for tax cuts to the wealthiest among us? Was that wealth not built by the labor of other Oregonians? Has it not benefited from our schools, our roads, our emergency services? Economists have shown that trickle down economics does not work, so why should we allow wealth to accumulate in Oregon rather than be used to pay for the public services that we all need and use?

I would like to see us increase taxes on those who can most easily pay them, and use that money to pay for the infrastructure and services that we desperately need. Please, we need more funding for our schools, our roads, our communities. We do not need estates valued at \$13 million+ to remain untouched for people who happen to be born into wealth.

Thank you,
Lucy
Portland, OR