

Submitter: Robert Rust

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Human Services

Measure: HB4079

As an Oregonian grappling with the devastating effects of rising inflation, I am writing to urge you to oppose House Bill 4079 which establishes a 3% sales tax funding \$750 monthly payments to low-income Oregonians.

Oregon currently ranks 4th in the nation for state spending as measured by per-person spending. Despite this, Oregon is dealing with a catastrophic homelessness problem, and has the worst statistics on mental health and wellbeing in the country. Clearly our tax dollars are not being spent effectively. Perhaps a more effective strategy would be to remove the special corporate welfare Oregon affords large companies and Hollywood film companies, rather than raising new punishing taxes on vulnerable Oregonians.

Adding a new tax burden to an already overtaxed population, weary from the effects of rising inflation (which would only be exacerbated by a sales tax) and other costs from the pandemic response, will only serve to worsen the divisions in this state. I encourage you to oppose this bill, and to consider more effective ways of utilizing the current tax revenue.

Thank you very much for your consideration, and diligent advocacy for Oregonians.