

Submitter: jennifer Gill

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Human Services

Measure: HB4079

As a long-time democrat I am a firm believer in helping people in need. This bill will not help people or our state. With the staffing shortages nationwide, there is no reason for any able bodied person to not have gainful employment. For homeless people in our area and across the state, there are services available to obtain appropriate work clothing, places to attend to personal hygiene, and food to supply needed energy for working. I cannot get medications I need because the pharmacy cannot get them, because of staffing shortages throughout the supply chain. Those of us who are working are trying to recover from the closures and to tax us on top of that, simply to further discourage people from working, would be detrimental to all. We need to get our state back to functioning properly, not attract more people from other areas because of our generous welfare assistance. This bill would attract people from other states and further overwhelm our charities and social services. Please concentrate the legislative efforts on gettin people back to work! As a side note, I would support a sales tax if it were used to defer or limit property or income taxes. Sales tax is a fair tax. It's not applied to food or basic things required to live. Reduced property taxes would help reduce rental costs, and reduced income taxes would help people recover from the trials of this pandemic and inflation as a whole. Sales tax is a tax on things that are wanted, not necessarily needed, and it's fairly paid by everyone.