

Submitter: Paul Brown

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure: SB540

In 2032, I will have served 23 years in the Oregon Army National Guard with 20 years of that time as Active Guard Reserve. To protect my retirement pension, I plan on moving my family to a state that does not tax military retirement income. I'm born and raised in Oregon. I don't necessarily want to leave, but this one issue will cause me to make that tough decision. There are many military retirees that I know that will do the same. I will continue working in the civilian work force for another 20 years after I retire from the Oregon Army National Guard. Oregon will not only lose out on the taxes paid from my military retirement, but the taxes paid from my next 20-year career, the property taxes I will no longer pay here, my wife's taxable income, and the money my family and I spend in the local economies. In addition to losing current Oregonians that retire from the military, Oregon is not attracting Active Duty military retirees to move here after their completion of service. They primarily move to states that don't tax their retirement. This bill is a good start but if you want to make Oregon truly attractive to military retirees, pass a subsequent bill removing all state income tax from military retirement pay, not just \$17,500.