

Submitter: Jeff Hoag
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HJR201

Oregon's taxes are already far too high. We endure a 9.9% income tax which is the sixth highest in the nation. Property taxes are extremely unfair, especially to older citizens, who also happen to disproportionately bear their brunt. Many of us have worked, paid income taxes, and saved our entire lives to purchase homes to live in during retirement. This is a time in our lives when we are looking forward to finally enjoying the fruits of our life-long labor. But now the state is threatening to take away our retirement years by re-taxing us on our property that we purchased AFTER already paying taxes, and continuing to do so EVERY SINGLE YEAR, regardless of the fact that we will no longer have income. Moreover, property values continue to skyrocket, pushing property taxes ever higher, while our property's intrinsic value remains constant: it is simply our home. The people of Oregon have already loudly spoken several times to limit the amount of property tax that can be collected. This tax proposal is clearly a blatant attempt to silence Oregon citizens by ignoring the limits we have already enshrined in our State constitution. This unconscionable tax cannot be allowed. As Oregonians, we do not even want to consider it. Please kill this proposal immediately.