

Submitter: Brad Owens
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HJR201

Public safety benefits all persons who are present in the state whether property owners or not. Even non-residents who work within the state benefit from provisions for public safety. The most equitable taxation which falls most broadly on beneficiaries would be the income tax. If current public funding sources are inadequate to provide sufficiently for this area the current income tax rates should be adjusted rather than introducing a new level of property taxation beyond what is already established. This proposal looks at property ownership as a luxury of the privileged who should rightfully bear a penalty for the very act of owning property. People who own property have chosen to act responsibly and with foresight, often paying for a home for 30 years in order to provide for their future needs. Our government has promoted and encouraged home ownership over decades with specific policies that enabled the purchase of homes. The idea that property should now be viewed as an untapped government resource to be squeezed for cash whenever a need is identified is truly onerous and should be rejected as a socialist income redistribution scheme by anyone with their eyes open.