

Submitter: Diana Jimenez
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HJR201

Oregon already has one of the highest states in the country, taking into account their lower population numbers. Oregon also collects millions in taxes that thanks to the "kicker" they are forced to return to taxpayers. It appears the legislature is trying to reverse the "kicker" and also remove all protections state residents have against oppressive taxes and their effects on the elderly on fixed incomes and low income people.

When I say this, many people say that there are "programs" to help such people, but the "poverty level" income rates on GROSS incomes of \$31,000/yr for a single person widely used by all entities purporting to "offer some relief" against increasingly unaffordable taxes and price increases is completely inadequate, as it excludes many vulnerable people from receiving ANY relief.

If the aim of this legislature is to force the elderly to sell their homes (so more taxes can be collected) and become "homeless" you are off to a great start, but the elderly do not want to sell homes they have lived in for years, only to be shunted off to "miniature houses" that will be built in _____? or to nursing homes. Do you understand how ridiculous it is to force people to lose their homes due to ever increasing taxes combined with high prices, only to "promise" to build them a house some time in the future?

Since moving to this state, I have been shocked by how the Oregon legislature imposes a tax for a specific purpose and enacts it after a "yes" vote, but then allocates the funds for another purpose without a vote! I also dislike how this legislature tries to "push" measures without consideration as to how their poor planning would adversely affect vulnerable neighborhoods (I am speaking about Vote Before Tolls initiative, which I strongly support).

I strongly oppose this measure for amendment to the Oregon Constitution requiring the Legislative Assembly to create an administrative authority for "funding public safety" in this state, and will vote accordingly. You should also be very aware of the rising levels of anger against such measures on Next Door and other social media. Enough is enough!