

Submitter: Katie Miller
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HJR201

I write in OPPOSITION to HJR 201 for a Statewide Property Tax.

We already have an affordable housing crisis in Oregon, and HJR 201 will make it worse.

I oppose this bill because:

- 1) It will increase homelessness, due to rising rents and home costs, to cover the extra property taxes.
- 2) Young couples and the elderly will no longer be able to afford housing, as it creates a burden on low-income folks.
- 3) It makes Oregon an undesirable place to live, due to hardship of the cost of simply being able to live here. People and businesses will start to flee to other states, like Texas.
- 4) This Bill has the potential to remove Constitutional limits and protections of privately-owned property.

HJR 201 is proposed to address exposures of wildfire due to climate change impact; however, we see local and state government pass policy that adds to the impacts of climate change through development of farm and forest lands that store carbon from the atmosphere in the soil. Government continues to build on these precious soils for housing and industry resulting in increased pollution and climate change. Smart growth is needed to prevent climate change and we need to preserve our precious farm and forest lands from over development.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) under Homeland Security makes Federal funding available across our nation to address public safety prevention, preparedness and response that is identified as a need HJR 201. These grants include tax funds paid by Oregonians – lets work collectively to bring these Oregon tax dollars back from the Federal government to work in our community and state.

For these reasons, I OPPOSE HJR 201 and ask our legislators to vote “No” on this Bill.