

Submitter: Rutha Haskin  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Rules  
Measure: HJR201

I am against a property tax because the state of Oregon has a history of being unable to account for money. Recent headlines these past years are telling.

"For the first time in decades, state auditors have called out reckless spending of more than \$400 million in federal pandemic aid that continued until just a month ago."  
-2024

"State auditors flagged \$35.2 million of questionable spending within the Oregon Department of Human Services, Oregon Health Authority, Oregon Housing and Community Services and Higher Education Coordinating Commission." -2023

"Audit faults the state's 'poor' monitoring of Oregon Health Plan contractor. The audit concerns the health authority's oversight of its \$70 million, four-year contract with Comagine Health, a Seattle-based nonprofit" -2023

"Federal auditors have flagged problems in the Oregon Health Authority's oversight of mental health grants, including the potential misappropriation of more than half a million dollars" -2023

The state of Oregon can not balance a checkbook. Placing the burden on Oregonians is not the answer. The state needs to cut pet projects that do not help citizens, reevaluate contract spending, and reduce the number of employees. Putting a state-wide property tax in our Constitution opens up the door to larger taxes in the future and untamed spending within our government. There is no accountability and headlines are glaring. Oregonians do not want to give one more dime to the state. I respectfully oppose HJR201