

Submitter: Rodney Peloquin
On Behalf Of: Myself and Spouse
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HJR201

To whom it may concern,

1) The overarching scope of the proposal under HRJ201 is almost mind numbing ("...shall impose by law a state property tax on all real property and all personal property, tangible and intangible, located, used or held for use within the state..."). It leaves nothing safe from being tracked and assessed and valued for the purposes of collecting yet more State tax revenue. While the specifics of course will be passed through legislation, passing a measure based on this open ended scope provides no protection to the ownership by the citizens of Oregon.

2) The proposed ballot would gut the spirit of Oregon Measure 5A passed in 1990 by Oregon voters with an incredible 77% yes vote to stop the runaway train of property tax increases. Note every other sub portion of Measure 5 which would increase taxes in some way was defeated by at least 63%.

3) The provisions of HRJ201 will create another layer of Government with another cadre of civil servants who must be funded in their labor, benefits, and PERS funds.

4) We already have public safety infrastructure in place at all levels of government in this state, municipal, county, and State, at the police, prosecutors, and judicial level. We do not need more.

Taking the last point first, a lack of will on the part of some portions of our public safety system to investigate, arrest, charge, try, and incarcerate those individuals breaking existing laws should not mean the citizens of this state should fund more efforts in those areas. The existing system needs to do what is funded for and protect the law abiding citizens. Leniency is not justice when that leniency is not warranted.

One of the purposes of government is to protect the rights and well being of all citizens. One of the primary concepts behind Oregon Measure 5 was to protect individual's ability to stay in their own homes and farms and businesses and not get taxed out or off of them. By adding a new layer of property tax there is no guarantee this will not happen. (And NO, letting an elderly person "borrow" their property tax payments through a deferral program does not protect their property or capital. It steals it).

And if any proponent of this new property tax believes that renters or consumers will not be affected, they are willful in their misunderstanding of the realities of the

economics of rental properties and business costs.

The citizens of this state have been absolutely hammered with increasing personal costs in recent years. Food inflation, significant cost increases on all types of insurance, rising fuel prices (at all levels creating increase costs throughout the system), electrical rate increases, loan rate increases. Why would anyone involved in State Government think it is a good idea to add additional burden on to the citizenry?

Capitol is mobile. If the Statists believe that taxes, fees, and regulations can continue to be added and increased with no affect on those who have the financial ability to permanently leave the state they are mistaken. The nation has seen a migration of Corporations and high net worth individuals away from high tax states to those states offering less taxation, better services, and less crime. The loss of these businesses, jobs, and the individuals themselves with their capitol will just put a further burden on the average and lower income demographic which has to stay here in Oregon and deal with the consequences.

High taxation and high regulation does not guarantee better schools, services, and crime. It is actually often the opposite. It often shows a will by the political and governing class to create a system which exists for itself and its peers, and loses sight of the purpose of collective government for all the citizens.

Please kill this resolution now.

Respectfully,

Rodney Peloquin
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