

Submitter: Angela anonymous
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HJR201

I have friends and family members barely hanging on financially, we cannot increase property and remove our constitutional property tax limits. I see daily posts from people in my community that can no longer hold on to their homes and where do they go when rental rates are also too high for this group. We are losing residents in Oregon and much of that is due to our high home prices and rental prices. Do we really want to only have 1 class of people that can afford home ownership, the wealthy. My husband and I make a good income now but in a few years we will be looking at retiring and I'll need to look elsewhere because Oregon is no longer affordable or tax friendly. Think of our senior population on fixed incomes, everything in the last few years has become more expensive and now we are thinking about raising taxes, many will lose the one asset they were counting on. My mom is in this situation, she cannot work due to illness, she's barely surviving on a small saving and social security, she's cut back as much as she can and it's not enough. I've lived in Oregon 40+ years and I love this state, it's beauty, our diversity of people and food, our access to nature, our once smaller city eclectic charm and quiriness, our weather; it has been a wonderful place to live for most of my life. Now what do we have, unaffordable housing, some of the highest taxes in the nation, large increase in crime and out of control protesting, out of control homelessness and filth, huge drug problems and it's not affordable to do anything anymore unless you are wealthy or have two good incomes, unless you don't mind charging up a credit card and going into debt. We can do better than this, refocus please and come up with better solutions, put people and families first and use our tax dollars wisely, too many times it seems you run out of money for the most fundamental things and then hold us hostage to vote for teachers jobs, basic infrastructure repairs ect, why are those not funded first. What is funded first? Instead of looking for ways to collect more taxes and new taxes where can we cut to relieve the average person in Oregon?