

Submitter: Dieter Weber
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HJR201

I must strongly oppose this Oregon statewide property tax.

First, It is highly suspect and clearly dubious as it appears to be hurriedly forced upon Oregon property owners late last Friday, then it sat hiding over the weekend so that many of it's victims only found out about the hearing on Monday (one day before the public hearing begins and ends on 2/13/2024).

Second, the main thrust of this measure would skirt the Oregon Constitution by amending it to add a separate and additional property tax which is divorced of current local control over property taxes from Counties/Cities by allowing a new statewide property tax scheme without limits. If this measure is passed, Oregon property owners will essentially be signing an annual blank check over to a new government-created "Legislative Assembly".

Third, and finally, this undesirable measure not only creates unnecessary, high-paying government positions whose salaries will continue to increase and rob tax payers more each year, and will thus be unsustainable; but also gives the non-elected officials of the "Legislative Assembly" the authority to implement this statewide property tax to fund the as-of-yet undefined and nebulously-named: "public safety" -a broad term that can include links to forest fires, climate change, pot holes, and stop signs, to name a few.