

Submitter: David Brooks
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HJR201

I'm against HJR 201. We can't afford it! Oregonians already pay higher taxes than the residents of most states. Our state government is too big, and creating a new state agency charged with administering this new program is going to be very costly. A new statewide property tax without limits is a bad idea. We already have a housing crisis, which our current leaders seem unable to address in a meaningful way. A new statewide tax without limits will increase the already sky high housing costs in Oregon. Many seniors and disabled people on fixed income will slide toward homelessness as rents and home prices continue to increase, caused by this bad piece of legislation. I'm on a fixed income, and being able to continue to afford a home for my family is my top concern.

It's disingenuous for the authors of this resolution to claim the money is needed for public safety. If our leaders want public safety, they shouldn't be de-funding the police, while at the same time decriminalizing hard drugs and releasing career criminals from prison early. If there is a public safety crisis, it has been planned and engineered by the City of Portland and our state government. Creating a new tax for public safety is a marketing ploy and nothing more. Please do the right thing and kill HJR 201. If it passes, increased housing costs and more homelessness will be the primary result.