



Taxpayers Association of Oregon

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Taxpayers Association of Oregon urges a No vote on HJR 201 and HB 4075

Oregon Is Already the “Highest Tax State” in the Union:

- As reported last year by CNBC, Oregon is [first for middle class effective tax rate](#).¹
- Bloomberg reports Portland is the [second for most taxed place in America](#). Those making a salary of \$250,000 in Portland pay over \$100,000 in taxes.²
- A recent Willamette Week article ranks [Oregon ranks fifth for worst affordable housing state](#).³

HJR 201/HB 4075 work against Governor Kotek’s priority to house more Oregonians.

Seniors, the disabled, unemployed, first-time home buyers and people on fixed incomes will be hit hardest by HJR 201/HB 4075.

Small businesses will also feel the pinch. These measures raise taxes on business by providing the ability to tax business personal property and intangibles.

HJR 201 proposes a problematic governance structure that:

- Subverts Local Control from Cities and Counties by creating a new statewide administrative authority on public safety,
- strips the budgeting power of the legislative assembly and gives it to the authority,
- Lacks executive oversight for the new statewide authority.

Taxpayers are sending us horror stories if property taxes are increased

“My wife and I are on a fixed income. Cost of living increases don't even come close to the actual cost of living. And now, in Josephine county, we are facing another big property tax increase for a fire/police district (as if we shouldn't already have that protection naturally?). It will mean another \$150 in the "out" basket next year. I honestly don't know where it come from.” --Red S.

“I am a disable Veteran, Agent Orange victim and my wife is receiving disability for a long term illness. We are barely able to meet our current obligations. We are now at the point to pay for any additional taxes we will have to cut back on the basic, food, heat and electricity, plus the fuel needed to travel 100 mile round trip to many of our medical appointments. This new proposed property tax would put us in a very difficult financial spot”. -- Steve B.

¹ <https://www.cnbc.com/2023/02/27/states-with-highest-income-taxes-for-people-earning-75000-dollars.html>

² <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2023-06-01/portland-tops-cities-where-high-earners-face-biggest-tax-hit?>

³ <https://www.wweek.com/news/2023/10/27/oregons-housing-production-shortage-among-nations-worst/>