

House Bill 3844

Sponsored by Representative BREESE-IVERSON, Senators GIROD, MCLANE; Representative MANNIX

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act makes a new exemption against Oregon estate tax. (Flesch Readability Score: 61.3).

Provides for an additional exemption against Oregon estate tax in order to account for inflation in the calculation of a taxable estate. Adjusts the amount of an exemption based on inflation. Allows an estate to file an amended return seeking a refund based on the operation of the exemption. Applies to the estates of all decedents who die on or after January 1, 2020.

Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to exemptions from estate tax; creating new provisions; amending ORS 118.010; and pre-
3 scribing an effective date.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2025 Act is added to and made a part of ORS 118.005 to**
6 **118.540.**

7 **SECTION 2. (1) An additional exemption from estate tax shall be allowed under this**
8 **section.**

9 **(2) The Department of Revenue shall annually determine the exemption amount allowed**
10 **under this section according to the cost-of-living adjustment for the calendar year.**

11 **(3) The department shall make the determination under this section by:**

12 **(a) Multiplying \$1 million by the percentage, if any, by which the monthly averaged U.S.**
13 **City Average Consumer Price Index for the 12 consecutive months ending August 31 of the**
14 **prior calendar year exceeds the monthly averaged U.S. City Average Consumer Price Index**
15 **for the 12 consecutive months ending August 31, 2025.**

16 **(b) Subtracting \$1 million from any positive amount determined under paragraph (a) of**
17 **this subsection. The amount of the difference shall equal the additional exemption.**

18 **(4) As used in this section, "U.S. City Average Consumer Price Index" means the U.S.**
19 **City Average Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (All Items), as published by the**
20 **Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor.**

21 **SECTION 3. ORS 118.010 is amended to read:**

22 118.010. (1) As used in this section:

23 **(a) "Nonresident decedent" means an individual who is domiciled outside of Oregon on the date**
24 **the individual dies.**

25 **(b) "Resident decedent" means an individual who is domiciled in Oregon on the date the indi-**
26 **vidual dies.**

27 **(2) A tax is imposed upon a transfer of the property of each:**

28 **(a) Resident decedent; and**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

- 1 (b) Nonresident decedent whose estate includes any interest in:
- 2 (A) Real property located in Oregon; or
- 3 (B) Tangible personal property located in Oregon.
- 4 (3) The Oregon taxable estate to be used for purposes of computing the tax imposed under this
- 5 section shall be the federal taxable estate:
- 6 (a) Increased by:
- 7 (A) The deduction for state estate, inheritance, legacy or succession taxes allowable under sec-
- 8 tion 2058 of the Internal Revenue Code; and
- 9 (B) If the decedent is a surviving spouse owning the property at death, the value of the following
- 10 property unless included in the federal taxable estate:
- 11 (i) Property for which a deduction for Oregon special marital property under ORS 118.016 was
- 12 previously allowed; or
- 13 (ii) Property for which a separate Oregon election under section 2056 or 2056A of the Internal
- 14 Revenue Code was previously allowed; and
- 15 (b) Reduced by:
- 16 (A) The value on the date of the decedent's death of all Oregon special marital property under
- 17 ORS 118.013;
- 18 (B) The exemption allowed under ORS 118.145; [*and*]
- 19 **(C) The exemption allowed under section 2 of this 2025 Act; and**
- 20 [*C*] **(D)** Any other applicable exclusions or deductions.
- 21 (4) The tax imposed under this section shall be calculated by applying the rates in the following
- 22 table. If the Oregon taxable estate is at least the amount in column 1, but less than the amount in
- 23 column 2, the tax is the amount in column 3, increased by the excess above the amount in column
- 24 1 multiplied by the percentage in column 4:

27	1	2	3	4
28	\$1,000,000	\$1,500,000	\$0	10.0%
29	1,500,000	2,500,000	50,000	10.25%
30	2,500,000	3,500,000	152,500	10.5%
31	3,500,000	4,500,000	257,500	11.0%
32	4,500,000	5,500,000	367,500	11.5%
33	5,500,000	6,500,000	482,500	12.0%
34	6,500,000	7,500,000	602,500	13.0%
35	7,500,000	8,500,000	732,500	14.0%
36	8,500,000	9,500,000	872,500	15.0%
37	9,500,000		1,022,500	16.0%

- 39
- 40 (5) In the case of a resident decedent owning, on the date of the decedent's death, real property
- 41 located outside Oregon or tangible personal property located outside Oregon, the tax imposed under
- 42 this section shall be the amount determined under subsection (4) of this section multiplied by a ratio.
- 43 The numerator of the ratio shall be the sum of the value of the decedent's real property located in
- 44 Oregon, tangible personal property located in Oregon and intangible personal property. The numer-
- 45 ator may not include any intangible personal property subject to a tax imposed, as a result of the

1 death of the decedent, by another state or country. The denominator of the ratio shall be the total
 2 value of the decedent's gross estate.

3 (6) In the case of a nonresident decedent owning, on the date of the decedent's death, real
 4 property located in Oregon or tangible personal property located in Oregon, the tax imposed under
 5 this section shall be the amount determined under subsection (4) of this section multiplied by a ratio.
 6 The numerator of the ratio shall be the sum of the value of the decedent's real property located in
 7 Oregon and tangible personal property located in Oregon. The denominator shall be the total value
 8 of the decedent's gross estate.

9 (7) Payment, in whole or in part, of estate taxes from funds of an estate or trust on any benefit
 10 subject to tax under ORS 118.005 to 118.540 is not to be considered a further taxable benefit, when
 11 such payment is directed by the decedent's will or by a trust agreement.

12 (8)(a) If the federal taxable estate is determined by making an election under section 2031(c),
 13 2032, 2032A, 2056 or 2056A of the Internal Revenue Code or another provision of the Internal Re-
 14 venue Code, or if a federal estate tax return is not required under the Internal Revenue Code, an
 15 executor may make separate elections for state estate tax purposes under that same provision.

16 (b) An executor may make elections under ORS 118.013, 118.140 and 118.145 and section 2056
 17 of the Internal Revenue Code for state estate tax purposes.

18 (c) Elections described in this subsection are irrevocable.

19 **SECTION 4. (1) Any estate that seeks a refund due to the operation of section 2 of this**
 20 **2025 Act and the amendments to ORS 118.010 by section 3 of this 2025 Act, as applicable es-**
 21 **tates of decedents dying on or after January 1, 2020, and before January 1, 2025, shall file an**
 22 **amended return.**

23 **(2) Notwithstanding ORS 118.100 (1), a taxpayer may file a claim for a refund described**
 24 **in subsection (1) of this section at any time prior to July 1, 2026.**

25 **(3) A refund described in this section does not bear interest under ORS 305.220.**

26 **SECTION 5. Notwithstanding ORS 315.037, section 2 of this 2025 Act and the amendments**
 27 **to ORS 118.010 by section 3 of this 2025 Act apply to the estates of all decedents who die on**
 28 **or after January 1, 2020.**

29 **SECTION 6. This 2025 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2025**
 30 **regular session of the Eighty-third Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.**