

Submitter: Joni Mogstad

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3856

Dear Committee Members, House Representative members and any others who have interest or authority regarding this tax issue including Darin Harbick,

I own property in South Eugene and in Creswell. I am retired but I still have income. I have always been against income tax here because we pay a great deal through property taxes. I believe we have repeatedly voted against any kind of income tax and now I'm reading about a Bill that would impose an income tax and that you want to focus it on those of use who regularly use the outdoors for sustenance and recreation. There are so many reasons not to do this. ODFW should not develop a budget based on the earnings of the locality. We already have a budget based on their needs and presented every other year. The revenue comes from property taxes which NEVER go down. I have noticed that Oregon Forestry, Oregon Motor Vehicles and other State bureaucracies have been unable to manage their budgets lately. Maybe they should look for some efficiency experts to help them rather than taking more money form a working population that is daily more strapped by rising costs of daily living.

There are two elements (maybe more) that are particularly alarming to me. One is that the Bill allows the revenue generated to be moved to the general fund with no strings attached to it or tying it of Fish and Wildlife. The other is the Bill as written will allow the State in increase the RATE of the tax based on the rate of inflation thus getting a double whammy in terms of revenue and hit on the working or retired public. Any time Mr. Hourly Worker gets a raise, his contribution will increase just because of that. His contribution will also increase because the rate increases.

The Bill pretends to benefit those who buy permits by granting them a tax credit (so they aren't taxed twice on the same money) but the slippery stuff described will wipe out any pretext of a benefit.

Please do not forward this Bill for action!

Thank You
Joni Mogstad