

Submitter: Gregory Day
On Behalf Of: Self
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I will retire this year from the reserve component after 38 years of service. Over the years I have spoken with many retiring servicemembers, and they and their families carefully consider where they want to retire to when leaving military service. One of the most significant considerations is whether or not their military retirement will be taxed by the state they retire in. Oregon does not have any active duty military installations (except for USCG), so we do not have the benefit of retiring servicemembers choosing to remain simply because they already have a home here or children in school. By making Oregon less attractive to military retirees, we are losing out on all that potential federal money that could be spent in Oregon. Even if we don't tax their retirement, they will still pay all the other fees and taxes associated with living in a state, and their money will be spent locally. It seems like a worthwhile incentive at relatively little cost to the state. And that's aside from the positive messaging from Oregon actively supporting veterans in this manner.