

Submitter: Karl Pond

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2050

I retired from the Oregon Army National Guard in 2021. My wife, also an Oregon Army National Guard member, retired in 2024. In June of 2024 we moved to Las Vegas, NV, for the sole reason that NV doesn't tax pensions. We know many past present and future Guardsmen that have left, or are planning on leaving, Oregon because of high state taxes on military pensions.

Many of these military retirees would take second jobs, volunteer, and spend their disposable income in their local communities. Sadly, those contributions will not occur in Oregon because of the tax on their military pensions. They will occur in other pension tax friendly states.

Our pensions annual disposable income is over \$120,000. When we have to draw from our retirement investments, it will be over \$200,000 in disposable income a year. This is income that we could be spending in Oregon if our military pensions weren't taxed. That means Oregon loses out on our charity giving, volunteer work, and most importantly, our contributions to the local and state economy.

I imagine, the relatively small amount OR collects in taxes on military pensions would be far surpassed by the economic, community, and social impacts of more military personnel remaining in OR after retiring.

I support the passing of HB 2050, for the betterment of Oregon's economy, and local communities.