

Honorable Chair and Members of the Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue,

Hearing Date: March 26, 2025

I am writing to oppose SB 712, which would impose an automatic 3% annual increase in the maximum assessed value of property.

Reasons for Opposition:

- **Unfair Burden on Homeowners – Oregon property owners already face rising costs from inflation, utilities, and other taxes. This increase would further squeeze working families and retirees.**
- **Disproportionate Impact on Seniors and Fixed-Income Residents – Many homeowners, particularly seniors, cannot afford an automatic yearly increase in property taxes. This could force some to sell their homes.**
- **Encourages Government Waste Instead of Fiscal Responsibility – Instead of demanding more revenue from taxpayers, the Legislature should evaluate spending efficiency and budget priorities.**
- **Housing Affordability Crisis – Oregon is already unaffordable for many. SB 712 would increase costs and make homeownership even more difficult.**

Conclusion

SB 712 is an unnecessary and harmful tax increase that will hurt homeowners, especially seniors and low-income families. Oregon must prioritize responsible spending, not automatic tax hikes.

I urge the committee to reject SB 712 and seek better solutions that do not place additional financial burdens on taxpayers.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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