

Submitter:	Marie Wakefield
On Behalf Of:	
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Measure, Appointment or Topic:	SB110

Advocates say a baseball team is a catalyst for economic development. But 45 years of economic studies show that stadiums fail as an economic development catalyst. Most stadium-related spending reflects the reallocation/shift of spending from other local establishments, not creating new spending. We love the Trailblazers, but they are not an economic engine.

SB 110-A is the biggest single ask for state funds for any private business or cultural venue in Oregon history.

How do local community services get funded if the tax revenue from the team's salaries pays for stadium construction, and the stadium's property taxes pay for road improvements? Devoting this additional \$1 billion to the stadiums will lead to fewer dollars available for police, fire, schools and other public services the team and stadium require.

The diversion of up to \$1.4 billion in baseball players' taxes establishes a troubling precedent. Once this mechanism is used for baseball, other sports teams like the Trailblazers' - with their 30-year old MODA Center soon requiring major rehab or replacement - will expect similar treatment resulting in additional losses to state income.

A vibrant community needs taxes to be fair for all. We can't afford this with no tax revenue. Yet under SB110-A, all the player and staff taxes for 30 years will go to the owners of the team to pay for the stadium for their team. \$200 to \$300 million is more support than we've given any other team. That's enough.