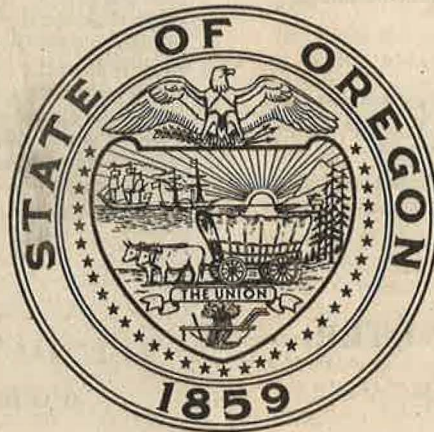


STATE OF OREGON

VOTERS' PAMPHLET

Special Election

September 17, 1985



Compiled and Distributed by
BARBARA ROBERTS

Secretary of State
State Capitol
Salem, Oregon 97310

INFORMATION

GENERAL

Material on the state sales tax measure in your official 1985 Special Election Voters' Pamphlet includes the ballot title, the complete text of the proposed measure, an impartial statement explaining the measure and its effect, and arguments filed by proponents and opponents. The page number for each item can be found in the table of contents page.

Oregon law requires the Legislature to submit one argument in favor of each measure it refers to the people. Citizens or organizations may also file arguments on state measures by purchasing space for \$300 or by submitting a petition signed by 1,000 electors. No arguments supporting or opposing ballot measures may be printed by the Secretary of State unless they have been submitted by one of these methods.

The Voters' Pamphlet has been compiled by the Secretary of State since 1903, when Oregon became one of the first states to provide for the printing and distribution of such a publication. In 1909, the Legislative Assembly passed a law requiring pamphlets to include information on candidates.

One copy of the Voters' Pamphlet is mailed to every household in the state. Additional copies are available at the State Capitol, post offices, courthouses, and other public buildings.

ABSENT VOTER

An absentee ballot application form and instructions have been printed on the inside back cover for use by those persons who will be unable to vote at the polls on election day.

If for any reason you will be unable to vote at the polls on election day, complete the form and mail it to your county election officer **today**.

**BE A WELL-INFORMED VOTER.
STUDY THE ISSUES.**

VOTER REGISTRATION

You may register to vote by mail or in person if:

1. You are a citizen of the United States.
2. You will be 18 or older on election day.
3. You are a resident of Oregon.

IMPORTANT: You may register to vote if you meet the above qualifications, but you must be a resident of Oregon **20 days** before you may vote.

You must reregister to vote if:

1. Your address changes for any reason, even within the same precinct.
2. Your name changes for any reason.
3. You wish to change political affiliation.

IMPORTANT: You cannot change political party affiliation within 20 days of the primary election.

If you register to vote within 20 days of election day, you must:

1. Have been a resident 20 days prior to the election date.
2. Deliver to the appropriate county clerk or a person designated by the county clerk a completed voter registration form and obtain a "Certificate of Registration."

IMPORTANT: If the county clerk receives your application more than ten days prior to election day, your certificate will be mailed to you. During the final ten days before the election you must obtain the certificate in person. Certificates are issued by the county clerk or designated representatives until 8 p.m. on the day of the election.

3. Present and surrender your certificate to your new precinct on election day and sign it in view of the election board clerk. The certificate shall be considered part of the poll book and your name will appear at the next election.

VOTE

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1985.
Polls open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.**

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Measure No. 1 STATE OF OREGON

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 4—Referred to the Electorate of Oregon by the 1985 Legislature to be voted on at the Special Election, September 17, 1985.

BALLOT TITLE

1 AMENDS CONSTITUTION. APPROVES LIMITED 5% SALES TAX FOR LOCAL EDUCATION.

QUESTION—Shall people amend Constitution, approve limited sales tax partially replacing property taxes for schools, community colleges, reducing income, timber taxes?

EXPLANATION—Approves sales tax law to fund schools, community colleges, reducing income, property, timber taxes. Amends Constitution to limit sales tax to 5%, exempts home consumed food, medical services, drugs, utilities, real estate transactions, animals, certain farm supplies. Prohibits local sales taxes. Directs legislation for administrative costs, tax relief for renters and low income individuals, limiting state spending increases. Provides school district tax bases, limits annual increases and school levy elections. Makes other changes.

ESTIMATE OF FINANCIAL EFFECT—Passage of this measure starts collection on April 1, 1986 of a five percent retail sales and use tax. Medical costs, purchases of food and drugs, utility costs, rent payments, real property purchases, animal purchases, certain farm supplies and other specific items will not be taxed. This tax is expected to raise about \$926 million in Fiscal year 1986-1987 for the following items:

- \$701.5 million will be used to cut property tax an average statewide of 35 percent on all classes of property.
- \$51 million will be used for renter relief.
- \$124 million will be used to cut individual income taxes by an average of 9.7 percent.
- \$19 million will be used to pay all or part of the sales tax paid by families with a total income of \$17,500 or less.
- \$12 million will be used to pay the state's cost to collect and disburse the tax.
- \$18.5 million will be used to repay business people for collecting the sales tax.

YES

NO

Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:

PARAGRAPH 1. The Constitution of the State of Oregon is amended by creating a new Article to be known as Article IX-A and to read:

ARTICLE IX-A

SECTION 1. (1) The rate of any state general retail sales and use tax shall not exceed five percent.

(2) Any state general retail sales and use tax shall not apply to the gross receipts from the sale of, or the storage, use or consumption of, food for home consumption, medical or hospital services, prescription medications, utility services, the sale, lease or rental of real property, animal life, animal feed, seed, plants or fertilizer, all to the extent provided by law.

(3) The Legislative Assembly by law may exempt other items or transactions not included under subsection (2) of this section. However, any bill granting exemption from the tax, eliminating an exemption from the tax or proposing a new taxable transaction and passed in the same form by both houses of the Legislative Assembly after July 1, 1987, shall be referred to the electors for their approval or rejection.

(4) Notwithstanding section 10, Article VI, or section 2, Article XI of this Constitution, no general retail sales and use tax shall be imposed by any county, city, district or other municipal corporation or political subdivision of this state.

(5) Notwithstanding sections 3a and 3b, Article IX of this Constitution, after providing for the costs of administration and any refunds or credits authorized by law, including any of those described in subsections (6) and (7) of this section, the proceeds from any state general retail sales and use tax shall be set aside and used exclusively for the support of common and union high school districts, education service districts which levy taxes on behalf of their component school districts that as of the day prior to the effective date of this amendment have no authority to establish a tax base, and community college or community college service districts.

(6) From the proceeds of the tax described in subsection (5) of this section, the Legislative Assembly shall provide a discount, offset, credit, refund or other reimbursement of administrative costs paid or incurred by retailers on account of the tax and shall further provide sales tax relief to low income individuals.

(7) The Legislative Assembly shall provide for property tax relief to residential renters.

SECTION 2. Notwithstanding section 11, Article XI of this Constitution, and subject to section 6 of this Article, each school district authorized to levy an ad valorem tax shall have a tax base computed as follows:

(1) In the first fiscal year in which moneys from the sales tax described in section 1 of this Article are distributed, the tax base shall be either of the following amounts:

(a) The tax base levied in the previous year plus the excess operating levy for the previous year, plus six percent of the total thereof, minus the sales tax moneys distributed to the district for that first fiscal year; or

(b) The average of the tax base plus excess operating levy levied for the two previous years, plus six percent of the total thereof, minus the sales tax moneys distributed to the district for that first fiscal year.

(2) In the second fiscal year in which moneys from the sales tax described in section 1 of this Article are distributed, the tax base shall be either of the following amounts:

(a) The tax base levied in the second previous year plus the excess operating levy for the second previous year, plus 12 percent of the total thereof, minus the sales tax moneys distributed to the district for that second fiscal year; or

(b) The average of the tax base plus excess operating levy levied in the second and third preceding year, plus 12 percent thereof, minus the sales tax moneys distributed to the district for that second fiscal year.

(3) For the fiscal year next following and for all fiscal years thereafter, the tax base of a school district authorized to levy an ad valorem tax shall be determined under section 11, Article XI of this Constitution except that for a district authorized to receive sales tax moneys under section 1 of this Article the percent added under paragraph (a) of subsection (2) or subsection (4) of section 11, Article XI of this Constitution shall be three percent rather than six percent. However, a school district shall not use any fiscal year prior to the fiscal year described in subsection (2) of this

Measure No. 1 STATE OF OREGON

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(3) The Legislative Assembly by law may exempt other items or transactions not included under subsection (2) of this section. However, any bill granting exemption from the tax, eliminating an exemption from the tax or proposing a new taxable transaction and passed in the same form by both houses of the Legislative Assembly after July 1, 1987, shall be referred to the electors for their approval or rejection.

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(5) Notwithstanding sections 3a and 3b, Article IX of this Constitution, after providing for the costs of administration and any refunds or credits authorized by law, including any of those described in subsections (6) and (7) of this section, the proceeds from any state general retail sales and use tax shall be set aside and used exclusively for the support of common and union high school districts, education service districts which levy taxes on behalf of their component school districts that as of the day prior to the effective date of this amendment have no authority to establish a tax base, and community college or community college service districts.

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(a) The tax base levied in the previous year plus the excess operating levy for the previous year, plus six percent of the total thereof, minus the sales tax moneys distributed to the district for that first fiscal year; or

(b) The average of the tax base plus excess operating levy levied for the two previous years, plus six percent of the total thereof, minus the sales tax moneys distributed to the district for that first fiscal year.

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(a) The tax base levied in the second previous year plus the excess operating levy for the second previous year, plus 12 percent of the total thereof, minus the sales tax moneys distributed to the district for that second fiscal year; or

(b) The average of the tax base plus excess operating levy levied in the second and third preceding year, plus 12 percent thereof, minus the sales tax moneys distributed to the district for that second fiscal year.

(3) For the fiscal year next following and for all fiscal years thereafter, the tax base of a school district authorized to levy an ad valorem tax shall be determined under section 11, Article XI of this Constitution except that for a district authorized to receive sales tax moneys under section 1 of this Article the percent added under paragraph (a) of subsection (2) or subsection (4) of section 11, Article XI of this Constitution shall be three percent rather than six percent. However, a school district shall not use any fiscal year prior to the fiscal year described in subsection (2) of this

Measure No. 1 STATE OF OREGON

section to determine its tax base under paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 11, Article XI of this Constitution.

(4) Notwithstanding subsections (1) and (2) of this section, if specifically provided by the Legislative Assembly, the amount of tax base reduction of a school district from sales tax moneys may be increased, if there is a decrease in enrollment, or decreased, if there is an increase in enrollment, by the rate of decrease or increase in the enrollment of the district.

(5) Those sales tax moneys distributed to school districts to replace revenues used by the Legislative Assembly to provide personal income tax relief shall not be used to reduce a tax base under subsections (1) and (2) of this section. The moneys to which this subsection refers shall not exceed 15 percent of the net proceeds of the sales tax, after refunds and credits.

SECTION 3. Notwithstanding section 11, Article XI of this Constitution, no school district authorized to levy an ad valorem tax shall be permitted to levy an ad valorem tax for other than capital expenditures in excess of the greater of its tax base, or the amount that, when combined with all other resources of the district, would permit operating expenditures, or operating expenditures per student, no greater than the district's operating expenditures, or operating expenditures per student, for the prior year.

SECTION 4. (1) An election of the question of a levy in excess of a tax base as provided under paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 11, Article XI of this Constitution and limited under section 3 of this Article may be submitted to the electors of a school district only on the third Tuesday in September of any year and may not apply to a fiscal year prior to the fiscal year to which subsection (3) of section 2 of this Article first applies.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (5) of section 11, Article XI of this Constitution, the question of establishing a new tax base by a school district shall be submitted only on the third Tuesday in May of any year and may not apply to a fiscal year prior to the fiscal year to which subsection (3) of section 2 of this Article first applies.

SECTION 5. The Legislative Assembly may provide that if the financial responsibility of providing public elementary or secondary education is transferred from one school district to another, the tax base of the receiving school district shall be

increased accordingly and the tax base of the transferring school district shall be decreased by the same amount. Except in the case of a community college service or community college district annexation of territory not in an existing community college or community college service district, subsection (4) of section 11, Article XI of this Constitution does not apply to a school district.

SECTION 6. If, after the effective date of this Article, a school district first provides a program for the education of its kindergarten children, the tax base of the school district shall be increased by the percentage increase in its average daily membership occasioned by the addition of the kindergarten program. The amount of the increase in the tax base shall be determined in the manner provided by law.

SECTION 7. As used in sections 2 to 6 of this Article, "school district" means a taxing unit providing public elementary or secondary education, or any combination thereof, within this state. "School district" includes an education service district and a community college or community college service district.

SECTION 8. In carrying out the purposes of section 1c, Article IX of this Constitution, the Legislative Assembly may provide for the computation of tax rates in such manner that reductions or offsets in levies occasioned by the implementation of sections 1 to 7 of this Article will not cause a diminution of funds otherwise available to pay the indebtedness incurred for a redevelopment or urban renewal project. This section is repealed on July 1, 1996.

SECTION 9. The Legislative Assembly shall establish a limitation on the rate of growth in state general operating expenditures, the rate to be measured by the rate of growth of personal income throughout the state, as defined by law.

SECTION 10. Notwithstanding sections 1 and 28, Article IV and section 1a, Article IX of this Constitution, House Bill 2010, as passed by the regular session of the Sixty-third Legislative Assembly shall become law on the effective date of this amendment.

PARAGRAPH 2. The amendment proposed by this resolution shall be submitted to the people for their approval or rejection at a special election held throughout this state on the date specified in House Bill 2192 (1985 regular session).

Measure No. 1 STATE OF OREGON

EXPLANATION

Measure No. 1, among other provisions, amends the Oregon Constitution to limit any state general retail sales/use tax to 5% and to dedicate net revenue from that tax to reducing local property taxes and state income taxes used for schools and community colleges. Except for collection costs, sales/use tax revenue cannot be used to fund state government. The constitutional changes made by this measure can be further changed only by vote of the people.

Measure No. 1 also makes effective House Bill 2010 which, among other provisions, establishes a 5% general retail sales/use tax.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

Measure No. 1:

- Limits state general retail sales/use tax to 5%.
- Exempts food for home consumption, medical or hospital services, prescription medications, utility services, animal life, animal feed, seed, plants or fertilizer; and sale, lease or rental of real property.
- Requires vote of people to change statutory exemptions or add taxable transactions after July 1, 1987.
- Requires reimbursement of retailers' cost of sales/use tax collection.
- Requires sales tax relief for low income individuals.
- Requires property tax relief for residential renters.
- Requires at least 85% of net sales/use tax revenues to be used for relief of property taxes which fund schools.
- Requires rest of net sales/use tax revenues (up to 15%) to relieve income taxes.
- Forbids local governments from levying a general retail sales/use tax.
- Requires state government spending limit.
- Sets the following new constitutional limits on schools and community colleges:
 - Over 2-year transition, establishes new tax bases reduced by the property tax share of relief.
 - Allows reduced bases to increase without vote of people by only 3% per year instead of existing 6% of current tax base.
 - Permits one election in May each year to increase tax base by more than 3%.
 - Prohibits a school district from levying more than its tax base for operating purposes unless total spending or spending per student is no greater than prior year, in which case permits one special levy election (September) to bring spending to prior year's level.
 - Allows vote on capital levies outside tax base.

COMPANION STATUTE: HOUSE BILL 2010

House Bill 2010:

- Establishes a 5% retail sales/use tax on goods effective April 1, 1986. Services are not taxed.
- Defines sales and receipts subject to tax.
- Defines additional exemptions from tax.
- Provides for administration, collection, audit and enforcement of tax.
- Limits elections on property taxes for local governments other than school districts to two (May, September).
- Reduces timber severance tax for Western Oregon from 6.5% to 5%; for Eastern Oregon from 5% to 3.8%.
- Sets state government spending limit based on growth of personal income in Oregon.
- Creates State Economic Stabilization Fund if state tax revenues exceed forecasts used to make the state budget.
- Creates Sales Tax Levelling Fund to avoid fluctuations in revenues to school districts.
- Earmarks further excess revenues for additional income tax relief.

Committee Members:

Representative Dick Springer
Representative George Trahern
Senator Jane Cease
Representative Tony Van Vliet
Hardy Myers

Appointed by:

Secretary of State
Secretary of State
President of the Senate
Speaker of the House
Members of Committee

(This Committee was appointed to provide an impartial explanation of the ballot measure pursuant to ORS 251.215.)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Oregon must reduce income and property taxes! We must find a better way to finance schools — limit government spending — create a fair tax system. We need to create a tax system that encourages the development of more jobs for our people, AND we must guarantee that taxes will not increase unless the people vote to approve a change.

Measure 1 does just that! Here's what you can expect:

Property taxes will be reduced an average of **35%**.

Income taxes will be reduced an average of **9.7%**.

Our schools will **never close** again because the people can no longer afford to pay the bill.

School districts will have a **limit** on what they can spend. Tax bases (the amount of property taxes paid) would not be allowed to grow more than 3% per year. The amount of property taxes paid to schools would be approximately 55% lower than today.

State Government spending **cannot grow** faster than the incomes of Oregonians.

Measure 1 is a fair tax.

- No tax on the "necessities of life": food for home consumption, prescription drugs and medical supplies, rents and mortgages, utilities, and gasoline.
- No tax on services such as car repairs, plumbing, and professional services.
- Renters will receive relief equivalent to that provided homeowners.
- Low-income families will receive payments to offset the sales tax they pay.
- The total tax burden for many homeowners, renters, and low-income families will be less.
- Retailers will be compensated for their costs of collecting the sales tax.

Measure 1 will bring jobs to our people.

- Business will find Oregon more attractive. Right now, other states are grabbing jobs because of Oregon's high property and income taxes, among the highest in the country.

Measure 1 provides Constitutional protections against tax increases.

- Simply put, the 5% tax rate can't be increased unless Oregonians vote to do so. You won't find that guarantee in any other state. Again, Oregon proves to be the pacesetter.
- No local government will be able to add on their own sales tax.

Measure 1 increases the number of people who pay taxes.

- The best tax is a tax somebody else pays. The next best tax is one that forces everyone to share in the tax responsibility.
- Some Oregonians use loopholes to avoid paying income taxes. Others pay no income taxes because they earn their living in the underground economy, taking their wages in cash. These people will no longer be able to escape their tax responsibility.

What's in it for you?

- property and income tax relief.
- a better way to finance schools.
- a fair tax that protects those least able to pay and collects taxes from those who currently don't pay.
- a limit on the growth of government spending.
- jobs for Oregonians.

Specifically, a family of four, earning \$25,000/year, living in a \$50,000 home, and spending less than \$10,500 on **taxable** items would lower their taxes under Measure 1.

Vote "Yes" on Measure 1.

Joint Legislative Committee Members:

Senator Rod Monroe
Representative Tom Throop
Representative Ted Calouri

Appointed by:

President of the Senate
Speaker of the House
Speaker of the House

(This Committee appointed to provide legislative argument in support of the ballot measure pursuant to ORS 251.245.)

The printing of this argument does not constitute an endorsement by the State of Oregon, nor does the state warrant the accuracy or truth of any statement made in the argument.

Measure No. 1 STATE OF OREGON

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

WHY DID THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF OREGON CHANGE ITS MIND ABOUT THE SALES TAX ??

The League believes that the social and economic future of Oregon depends upon a stable, balanced structure of taxation that is fair to all citizens. It should produce enough revenue to pay for the services Oregonians need.

For more than 20 years, the League has studied state and local taxes.

- We supported the local property tax until we saw the burden on homeowners and low income families become overwhelming. However, we recognized that property tax limitation measures were not the answer.
- We supported the state income tax as a progressive and fair source until two major problems occurred: the economic downturn and local governments' increased reliance on state income tax funds (property tax relief). The income tax needed help.
- We opposed or took no position on past sales tax proposals. Now, as a result of our 1984 study, **WE ARE CONVINCED THAT OREGON NEEDS A THIRD SOURCE OF REVENUE — THE SALES TAX.** No tax system is perfect, but a balanced one is best.

The proposed sales tax meets most of the League's criteria for a good tax because it will —

- Provide revenue to reduce property taxes substantially.
- Stabilize school financing while maintaining local control.
- Protect citizens' control by requiring a vote on sales tax rate changes.
- Address regressivity by providing renter and low income refunds.
- Exempt essentials like home food, medicines, utilities, and rent.
- Be relatively economical to administer and difficult to evade.
- Distribute the tax burden more evenly, when combined with reduced income and property taxes.

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS URGES YOU TO VOTE YES!

Submitted by: Kris Hudson, President of the
League of Women Voters of Oregon
(Paid for by the League of Women Voters
of Oregon Tax Committee)

(This space purchased for \$300 in accordance with ORS 251.255.)

The printing of this argument does not constitute an endorsement by the State of Oregon, nor does the state warrant the accuracy or truth of any statement made in the argument.

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Governor Atiyeh Supports Ballot Measure Number 1

As a lifelong Oregonian, I know how careful we are about making our decisions. Frequently, I deal with companies that are interested in bringing jobs to Oregon — and I have found they are just as careful as you and I are.

BALANCED TAXES CREATE JOBS

Companies often are wary about investing in a state, like Oregon, whose property and income taxes are nationally among the highest. They agree our total taxes are not unreasonable, but they dislike the imbalance.

In its income taxes Oregon ranks third nationally, right up there with New York. Our property taxes are higher than many other job-seeking Western states — such as Washington, California and Colorado — that compete against us for business investments in new and expanded jobs.

These companies dislike Oregon's heavy dependence on the property tax for much the same reason you and I do. They know that when times are bad, and they are not making a profit, their property taxes continue. They do not like being put in a position of laying off workers to pay their property taxes. By balancing our taxes on Sept. 17, Oregonians can attract these job creating companies by:

- slashing property taxes 35 percent statewide, reducing Oregon's national ranking to 22nd
- cutting income taxes by nearly 10 percent
- and adopting a sales tax that is a model for fairness without increasing total taxes.

It is for all these reasons and more that I changed a position I held for 25 years. I can now personally urge you to vote for Ballot Measure #1.

OREGONIANS CAN SEND A MESSAGE

The world — literally — is watching. Employers both inside and outside of Oregon, including those in Japan and Europe, are watching us to see whether we will balance our taxes. Now is our chance to send them a message.

By my "yes" vote on Sept. 17, I intend to send the message that I want to open new payroll windows for Oregonians.

JOIN ME — VOTE YES ON BALLOT MEASURE #1.

GOVERNOR VIC ATIYEH

Submitted by: Barbara Linhares
People for a Better Oregon
P.O. Box 25690
Portland, OR

(This space purchased for \$300 in accordance with ORS 251.255.)

The printing of this argument does not constitute an endorsement by the State of Oregon, nor does the state warrant the accuracy or truth of any statement made in the argument.

Measure No. 1 STATE OF OREGON

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

BOB STRAUB FOR A BALANCED TAX SYSTEM

I urge you to vote yes for Ballot Measure 1.

A sales tax in Oregon will bring new jobs, better job security and strengthen our economy.

This measure will collect over \$900 million a year and most of this will be used to lower Oregon's property taxes. It also will be used to lower our income taxes.

Because Oregon has some of the highest property and income taxes of any state in the nation, we not only penalize Oregonians with high property taxes, but we discourage new industry from locating in Oregon.

Part of this \$900 million in new income which the sales tax would raise will be paid by tourists. They should pay their fair share when they visit Oregon. We have all paid taxes traveling in their states. Now they will do the same here.

Oregon will have a bright future with new jobs with expanded Pacific Rim trade with a more reliable source of finance for education in Oregon and with adequate financial support to help maintain a good quality of life in Oregon.

Your yes vote for Ballot Measure 1 is needed to help.

Robert Straub,
Former Oregon Governor

Submitted by: Barbara Linhares
People for a Better Oregon
P.O. Box 25690
Portland, Oregon 97225

(This space purchased for \$300 in accordance with ORS 251.255.)

The printing of this argument does not constitute an endorsement by the State of Oregon, nor does the state warrant the accuracy or truth of any statement made in the argument.

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Measure Number 1 Draws Bipartisan Support of Statewide Officers

BARBARA ROBERTS BILL RUTHERFORD
DAVID FROHNMAYER MARY WENDY ROBERTS

Seldom, if ever, in Oregon's history has so significant an issue come along that also enjoys such widespread bipartisan support. Oregonians of every political persuasion recognize balancing Oregon's taxes really is that important.

Democrats, Republicans and independents support this measure. People who usually are on different sides of the political fence have lined up to support this measure.

SUPPORT CROSSES PARTY LINES

Even as you read this, members of both parties are working side by side to do whatever they can to explain this measure's importance to other Oregonians.

The measure to balance our taxes has the enthusiastic support of a Republican Governor. And, it also enjoys the solid support of a Democrat Secretary of State. At the same time, it also enjoys the support of the Republican State Treasurer and Attorney General, as well as, the Democratic Labor Commissioner, Mary Wendy Roberts.

The balanced-tax measure has the solid commitment of the Democratic President of the Oregon Senate and Speaker of the House. Both chambers of the Oregon Legislature approved this measure with none of the rancor that has marked past tax debates.

BALANCED TAXES ATTRACT JOBS

There must be a reason why so many people who think for themselves agree on this measure — there is.

Each of these people has studied the measure fully, and all agree that this measure is good for Oregon.

- It's good because it provides substantial property tax relief — 35 percent reduction in property taxes average statewide in the first year.

- It's good because it provides stable funding for our schools. Our children won't face school closures because education is now overly dependent upon property taxes.

- It's good because it is a uniquely Oregon plan. It creates a balanced tax system that is fairer to everyone than the present system. And, it's "tamper-proof" with the basic provisions locked into the state constitution — protected from legislative amendments or change.

Submitted by: Barbara Linhares
People for a Better Oregon
PO Box 25690
Portland, OR

(This space purchased for \$300 in accordance with ORS 251.255.)

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Measure No. 1 STATE OF OREGON

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

WHY THE SALES TAX DESERVES YOUR SUPPORT

As leaders of the 1985 Legislature, we made a promise. We would offer Oregonians a realistic and equitable alternative to oppressively high property and income taxes. We kept that promise; the sales tax package before you reflects this.

It also represents much more. Viewed in light of our current tax system, this proposal offers Oregonians the kind of balanced tax system we've never had. It also offers the state a chance to better control its economic destiny.

Oregonians last voted on a sales tax in 1969. Since then, our state has undergone some profound changes. Bedrock industries that we once took for granted, such as the timber industry, now are struggling just to survive. Small entrepreneurs, the backbone of our economy, find it increasingly difficult to expand in an uncertain economic climate. Some have gone out of business altogether. Large corporations look at our unbalanced tax system and decide not to locate here. And some decide to leave Oregon for the very same reason.

Of course, no legislative proposal can please everyone, especially one that involves taxes. But take a hard look at what this plan will really do if it passes:

- Oregon will have the only truly "tamper proof" sales tax in America. Locked into the Oregon Constitution, the 5 percent rate, the major exemptions, assistance for low-income Oregonians and renters, and other major provisions can only be changed by a vote of the people.

- Not a penny of the sales tax will be used for additional government programs. All the net proceeds are dedicated to reducing property and income taxes.

- Oregon's overall tax system would be fairer than it is now, because the plan would reduce by an average of 35 percent the unfair tax of all, the property tax.

- Public education will enjoy more stable funding. But in exchange for that security, this plan would *constitutionally impose* far stricter limits on future property tax growth than those which now exist.

On September 17, vote yes. For a balanced tax system. For a fairer tax system. For a tax system that will help us meet the challenges ahead.

VERA KATZ
Speaker of the House

JOHN KITZHABER, M.D.
President of the Senate

TONY MEEKER
Senate Minority Leader

Submitted by: Barbara Linhares
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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Oregon's Top Educators Speak Out For Balanced Taxes

VERNE DUNCAN, Superintendent of Public Instruction:

The most painful part of my job these last ten years has been sharing in the struggles of the dozens of districts which each year risk closure because local voters are frustrated with their high property taxes.

Measure #1 will make that kind of risk to the education of our young people a thing of the past. Measure #1 will substantially cut individual and business property taxes. Schools will secure solid, stable funding allowing them to better plan for the future.

The new, more balanced tax system contained in Measure #1 means those who've escaped their fair share of Oregon taxes will now chip in along with the rest of us. Tourists, for example, may well pay enough each year to buy all the new textbooks required for every public school in the state.

We have held our own children hostage too long because we've been frustrated about property taxes. Measure #1 will allow us to assure the educational needs of our children will be met, and balance out the burden of paying for schools.

WILLIAM E. (BUD) DAVIS, Chancellor of Higher Education:

Oregon's colleges and universities have suffered for more than a decade as Oregon has tried to lessen the load of high property taxes.

In the early 70's, Higher Education was funded at about 25% of the state's General Fund. Now our share is about half that. Our colleges and universities have suffered deep cuts to provide an increasing share of state income tax money for property tax relief. Despite the hundreds of millions spent, Oregonians are still upset about high property taxes.

Measure #1 is the only permanent solution to the problem. Voting yes on Measure #1 will drastically cut property taxes and guarantee to keep them down. But it also guarantees the state can return its attention to our Higher Education system while lowering state income taxes as well.

With Measure #1, Oregon can have the kind of total quality education system it needs and still be certain it lives within its means.

MEASURE #1 — GOOD FOR EDUCATION

Submitted by: Barbara Linhares
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Measure No. 1 STATE OF OREGON

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

OREGON BUSINESSES SUPPORT BALANCED TAXES

Our Unbalanced Tax System Hurts Oregon's Economy

Oregon is still struggling to recover from our worst recession since the Great Depression. We have not yet recovered all of the jobs we lost since 1979.

Since the recession, states have greatly intensified their competition for new jobs. Oregon must compete effectively if we want to increase the number of jobs available for Oregonians.

Our unbalanced tax system tends to detract from our ability to compete. Property taxes are very high and they must be paid regardless of whether or not a business is profitable. High income taxes have a chilling effect on other businesses seeking a state in which to expand. Consumption taxes are more controllable.

Our unitary tax elimination has drawn significant foreign investment to Oregon already. We need to take the bold step now to balance our tax system to encourage businesses of all kinds to consider bringing jobs to Oregon.

We Need to Stabilize Our Government Finance System

Oregonians are unhappy with the current tax system. Property and income taxes are too high. The instability of our government finance system can be seen in the periodic closure of Oregon schools. These closures that receive nationwide media coverage are bad publicity for Oregon's business climate.

Oregon's businesses support a balanced tax system that Measure #1 will provide to stabilize our government finance system without increasing total taxes.

We Need More Control of Government Spending

Measure #1 will Constitutionally require that the State's spending growth be no faster than the growth in Oregonians' total income. That is a major benefit of this balanced tax proposal.

Passage will also put in place a law to limit the number of times that local governments can request property tax increases to just two per year. That is another major improvement included in Measure #1.

MEASURE #1 WILL IMPROVE OUR JOBS CLIMATE.

BALANCE OREGON'S TAXES.

VOTE YES ON MEASURE #1.

Submitted by: L. W. Newbry
Chairman of the Board
Associated Oregon Industries
P.O. Box 12519
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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

LABOR SUPPORTS BALANCED TAXES FOR OREGON BECAUSE IT MEANS JOBS!

Oregon, unlike most other states, has yet to rebound from the crippling affects of a national recession. Lots of people have yet to go back to work and prospects for significant job improvement are not great. But that can change!

Here are some facts to think about. Oregon has the third highest income tax in nation. Oregon has the 8th highest property tax — tough when a person is out of work but property taxes still must be paid. To the nation, Oregonians appear justifiably angry to their tax situation and as a matter of fact, some Oregon companies have left the state because of it and taken jobs with them.

LET'S GET OUR JOBS BACK!

When we vote yes on Ballot Measure 1 on September 17, we will be advertising nationwide that we want jobs. We will be telling the nation that our angry property taxpayers won't be closing schools. We will be telling them that we have defused the property tax time bomb that prevents our communities from maintaining roads and streets, rebuilding bridges, building water and sewer systems and generally laying the groundwork that brings jobs to Oregon. We will be saying that we have a balanced property tax system that treats both individuals and business even handedly.

For all of us, a yes vote for Ballot Measure 1 will reduce both our property and income taxes. Unlike other states, major guarantees are in the state Constitution, only the voters can change them. This replacement tax is spent for strictly education. This guarantees that there will be significant property tax relief — 35 percent average statewide. Low income families and renters are treated fairly.

A BALANCED TAX SYSTEM FOR OREGON SIMPLY MEANS JOBS!

VOTE YES ON BALLOT MEASURE 1

Tom Whelan, Legislative Director
Oregon State Firefighter's Council

Submitted by: Barbara Linhares
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Measure No. 1 STATE OF OREGON

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Metro Chambers of Commerce Support Balanced Tax System

Hundreds of Oregon businesses are members of our Chambers of Commerce. As representatives of these businesses, both large and small, the chambers are even more aware than most of the inequities of Oregon's current tax system.

We need a change.

That's why the Portland and Beaverton Chambers of Commerce support Ballot Measure #1.

Ballot Measure #1 would limit the growth of government.

Ballot Measure #1 would provide a balanced tax system that would:

- Reduce property taxes by 35 percent across the state.
- Cut income taxes by almost 10 percent.
- Be fair to all Oregonians.

All **without** increasing the total tax burden.

Only the vote of Oregon's taxpayers could change tax rates.

Ballot Measure #1 would mean that essential services — that help insure a healthy business environment — could plan and operate without fear of financial floundering.

Ballot Measure #1 would distribute the tax burden more equitably.

A balanced tax system would help create a stable, healthy economy and jobs for Oregonians.

We urge you to vote YES on Ballot Measure #1

Jerri Doctor,
Beaverton Chamber of Commerce

Blanche Schroeder,
Portland Chamber of Commerce

Submitted by: Barbara Linhares
People for a Better Oregon
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Portland, Oregon 97225

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Oregon Seniors Back Balanced Taxes

Oregon's senior citizens have paid taxes long enough to know one thing. When the politicians say "tax measure," usually they mean "tax increase."

So we were suspicious.

We looked at this September 17 measure to balance our tax system from every angle. And we asked the obvious question: "Who benefits from this measure?"

We learned senior citizens will benefit. We liked that. But, we also learned we will not benefit at the expense of any other group.

We began to relax. This, we concluded, is not your usual tax measure. On the contrary. This measure balances taxes by substituting revenue from a new tax for significant reductions in two existing taxes. And it does it dollar for dollar. None of our money is siphoned off into new government programs.

Balancing our taxes means slashing property taxes by 35 percent (that's a statewide average, by the way). We know how important that is to people struggling to get by on fixed incomes.

Balancing our taxes means a limitation on property taxes — written permanently into the state Constitution — that is the tightest we have ever even seen proposed.

Balancing our taxes does mean a sales tax. We admit it, we were suspicious. But, to our surprise, we liked what we saw. This one cannot be topped for fairness!

Think about day-to-day purchases (the basics of life). These will be exempt from the sales tax:

- * Food for home consumption
- * Rent and mortgage payments
- * Household utilities, including firewood
- * Gasoline and diesel for your car
- * Newspapers and magazines
- * Medical, dental, accounting and other services
- * Prescription drugs and hospital bills
- * And used mobile homes.

This is a good measure. When we do pay a few pennies in sales tax, we can smile knowing every penny is being used to reduce our property and income taxes.

ON SEPT. 17 WE WILL VOTE FOR BALLOT MEASURE 1

Jack R. Barnes
Chairman Legislative Comm.
Oregon State Council of Senior Citizens

Submitted by: Barbara Linhares
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Measure No. 1 STATE OF OREGON

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

There's a better way to treat our children Than pitting them against angry taxpayers

Oregon's education system overly depends upon the property tax to pay the bill. Result, angry taxpayers have closed schools in Oregon. This happened not because the taxpayers thought their schools cost too much. They thought property taxes were too high.

• **Fact to focus on: Oregon's property tax is 8th highest in the nation!**

Ballot measure 1, the plan to balance Oregon's tax system, will reduce total property taxes by 35% average statewide and in no instance less than 30%. But more importantly, the money raised is dedicated to education — public schools and community colleges. It's an investment in Oregon's future — its youth.

• **Fact to focus on: Oregon's Balanced Tax Plan is one of a kind.**

Rumors to the contrary, this isn't a new tax. It is a Constitutionally dedicated sales tax at a fixed rate. The money goes to schools to reduce property tax. Only the people can vote to change it! Like the rest of Oregon's tax system it's fair. Low income families — those on fixed incomes — are protected. The basic goods and services everyone needs are exempt from this tax plan and these exemptions are guaranteed in the Constitution.

• **Fact to focus on: This is a plan to stabilize the way we pay for schools. It's not just another run away financing plan!**

School tax base growth is limited to 3% a year — half of what it is now. And there won't be election business as usual — excess levies can be voted on only once a year. Elections on new tax bases also are limited to one a year. It makes sense, we will pay for only what we can afford! For our children that's better than school closings brought about by angry taxpayers or the ultimate blow to education — a severe California-style property tax limit that would cripple Oregon's schools and economy.

Our school children deserve better!

A better economy for Oregon tomorrow depends on an educated workforce. This tax plan gives our children the education they deserve at a price we can all afford! They don't deserve to be pitted against us — angry taxpayers. No one wins — not Oregon, not our children!

Please vote on Sept. 17 for a balanced tax system for Oregon! One that reduces property taxes and cuts our dependence on it to finance schools!

Vote Yes on Ballot Measure 1

William Cramer, President
Oregon School Board Association
Bill Beck, President
Confederation of
Oregon School Administrators

Submitted by: Barbara Linhares
People for a Better Oregon
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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Oregon's Small Businesses Favor Balanced Taxes

Small businesses are struggling in Oregon. High property taxes have been just as unfair to businesses as to homeowners. We must pay those property taxes whether or not we make any profit — just like homeowners must pay whether or not they've got a job.

Ballot Measure 1 reduces high property taxes for a significant number of small businesses. That is why the Small Business Advisory Committee to the state Economic Development Commission supports this measure to balance taxes. We anticipate that any short term cost to small business will ultimately be offset by the long term benefits to the state's economy.

Unlike sales tax plans in other states, this plan is unique. Businesses collecting the tax will be adequately compensated and both the Legislature and the Department of Revenue have worked with retailers representatives in working out the details of collection.

In the last four years, it's been difficult to develop new jobs here because we're facing more than just a bad economy. Local government services businesses rely on — like police and sewers and local schools — have been sharply cut back. But local taxes have been rising — often unpredictably fast.

Measure 1 will make our tax bills more predictable, and provide much-needed stability in the government services we need.

Programs the state provides, like our colleges and universities, will be better served as well. And our very high state income taxes will be cut by nearly 10%.

That's why Measure 1 makes sense. It helps stabilize the way we pay for government. It makes the whole system fairer. And it helps business build new job opportunities.

MEASURE 1 IS GOOD FOR BUSINESS MEASURE 1 IS GOOD FOR ALL OREGONIANS BALANCE OREGON'S TAXES VOTE YES ON MEASURE 1

Chris Lougee, Chairman
Small Business Advisory Committee
Economic Development Commission

Submitted by: Barbara Linhares
People for a Better Oregon
P.O. Box 25690
Portland, Oregon 97225

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Measure No. 1 STATE OF OREGON

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

OREGON'S HOUSING INDUSTRY SUPPORTS BALANCED TAXES

The balanced tax system provided for by Ballot Measure #1 will be a great help to home owners and home buyers. For home owners, it will reduce the property tax burden of the typical family by several hundred dollars a year.

For renters seeking to buy their first home, it will make it easier for them to make their house payments. This reduced house payment brought about by lower property taxes will make the dream of homeownership a reality for thousands of additional Oregon families.

For the elderly who now face a future of fixed income but ever increasing property taxes, it will substantially reduce their cost of staying in their own home.

For all Oregon families, it will help insure that their monthly housing costs will continue to remain affordable. Ballot Measure #1 is fair and broad-based without a total tax increase. Renters will be given equivalent relief and family income taxes are cut. The key elements will be placed in the Constitution so they can only be changed by a vote of the people.

Ballot Measure #1 will also bring long-needed stability to school finances. Oregon families who have been continually burdened by ever-increasing school levies will no longer be threatened with "school closure" if a levy isn't approved.

Ballot Measure #1 will bring a sensible approach to Oregon's outmoded volatile and unfair tax structure. Reduced homeownership costs and stable school financing will bring a new confidence to neighborhoods. Strong neighborhoods along with a predictable balanced tax system will provide an environment which encourages growth of existing companies and new businesses. This means more jobs for Oregonians.

Measure #1 is Good for Oregon Let's Balance Oregon's Taxes VOTE YES ON MEASURE #1

James R. Irvine
Fred Van Natta
Oregon State Home Builders Association
545 Union Street
Salem, OR 97301

Submitted by: Barbara Linhares
People for a Better Oregon
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Portland, Oregon 97225

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

OREGON'S TAX SYSTEM IS ANTIQUATED

The forest products industry is still Oregon's number one job provider in Oregon — but it is an industry experiencing difficult times.

Oregon's primary U.S. competition is the South. Among the advantages the Southern states have are balanced tax systems.

PROPERTY TAXES ARE TOO HIGH

The forest industry is very capital intensive. It takes a lot of land to provide the logs to supply a sawmill, plywood mill or paper plant. And, it takes a lot of machinery and buildings to turn these logs into wood products. We pay property taxes on all of these items. Due to our unbalanced tax system we pay much higher property taxes here than we would in other forest producing states. Oregon's property tax is 8th highest in the nation.

Balancing our tax system would be good for Oregon's forest industry and it would be for Oregonians.

INCOME TAXES ARE ALSO TOO HIGH

Our economy is based on productivity. When taxes are too high on anything, it tends to result in a lower amount being produced. Income tax is nothing more than a tax on productivity. It doesn't matter how hard you work, every penny gets taxed — and at an even higher rate! After awhile, it makes more sense to go fishing.

EDUCATIONAL STABILITY IS IMPORTANT

The days of brute strength and little intellect are long gone in the forest industry of today. With today's complex equipment we need workers who have had a good education. Our unbalanced tax system threatens the provision of that good education in Oregon. People fear they'll lose their homes due to high property taxes so they vote "no" on school budgets. Sometimes the school doors close as a result. The Legislature scrambles to provide property tax relief by raising income taxes. No one wins.

Oregon's Forest Industry Needs the Boost a Balanced Tax System Provides!

JOIN US ON SEPT. 17 IN VOTING YES ON BALLOT MEASURE #1

Strayer Pittman
Lee Robinson
Bond Starker

Submitted by: Barbara Linhares
People for a Better Oregon
P.O. Box 25690
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Measure No. 1 STATE OF OREGON

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

The Oregon State Grange has opposed the sales tax consistently for over half a century, being one of the chief petitioners in referring the first Oregon sales tax proposal to the people in 1933-34.

Grange opposition to the sales tax is based on the same considerations that prevailed in 1933, reasons just as valid now as they were then because the essence of the proposal is the same as it was fifty years ago. Nothing has changed.

The current proposal, like its predecessors is basically inequitable and basically unsound.

It taxes **NEED** — not **ABILITY TO PAY!**

It's a new **ADDED TAX** — not tax equalization. It does not eliminate either property or income taxes. It simply adds a new tax to consumer purchases. It's a rapacious, octopus like scheme that its proponents want molded in concrete in the State Constitution.

THE EXEMPTION ON FOOD OFFERED IN THIS CONSTITUTIONAL MISCHIEF IS A DELUSION. The U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates that only a little over half the typical "Food Basket" contains actual food items. The rest is made up of basic home necessities, all of which would be subject to tax.

The sales tax, stripped of its pretensions, is a **MASSIVE SHIFT** of tax responsibility from those who benefit most in our society to the already over-burdened shoulders of those who benefit less. It would relieve affluent corporations of millions of dollars in justifiable taxes and shift those taxes to low and middle income consumers. It is based not on **ABILITY TO PAY**, but on the **NEED TO CONSUME.**

It is a distortion of the English language to call any sales tax a "progressive tax". There is "no such animal".

Distribution of the sales tax revenue has not been spelled out but is being left to the tender mercies of a future legislature. In other words, no taxpayer is assured as to how much property tax relief he or she will get, **IF ANY.** As one legislator phrases it: "Don't put your faith in some "Trust Me" legislature".

The potential for mischief is alarming. Slight property tax relief might be afforded temporarily, but the machinery is there to bring levies right back to where they are now — or higher — within a matter of a year or two. Oregonians will then be paying a sales tax **IN ADDITION TO THE PROPERTY AND INCOME TAXES THEY ARE NOW PAYING.**

IT IS AN ADDED TAX — NOT TAX REDUCTION.

The average consumer-taxpayer will pay substantially more over a twelve-month period in sales taxes than he will ever enjoy in property tax relief. Statistics on family pay-outs in sales tax states bears this out. **THE SALES TAX IS AN ADDED TAX — NOT TAX RELIEF!**

THE OREGON STATE GRANGE URGES YOU TO VOTE SEPTEMBER 17th and to vote a decisive "SALES TAX — NO!"

Submitted by: Morton Wolverton, Master
Oregon State Grange
1313 S.E. 12th Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97214

(This space purchased for \$300 in accordance with ORS 251.255.)

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ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

THE SALES TAX GAME

WHO ARE THE WINNERS?

Owners of high value properties
Non-resident owners of Oregon property
Out-of-state stockholders in Oregon businesses
Small families with high incomes

WHO ARE THE LOSERS?

Low and middle income families
Families of three or more persons
Elderly Oregonians that defer their property taxes
Border cities businesses with out-of-state customers
Families in low property tax areas of the state

Individuals (homeowners and renters would pay nearly 64% of the sales taxes collected each year and get only about 39% of the property tax relief, including low income refunds.

Businesses would pay only about 33% of the sales taxes collected and would get over 44% of the property tax relief.

Administration costs (300 to 400 new state employees and collection costs (paying retailers 2¢ out of every sales tax dollar they collect) would eat up more than would be picked up from tourists.

HERE ARE THE FIGURES TO SHOW THAT THE SALES TAX MEASURE WOULD PUT AN ADDITIONAL \$106 MILLION TAX BURDEN EACH YEAR ON OREGON HOMEOWNERS AND RENTERS!

Homeowners and renters would pay nearly 64% of the \$926 million collected in retail sales taxes each year for a total of\$591,000,000 and would receive back in all forms of tax relief and refunds\$485,000,000

TOTAL INCREASED TAX BURDEN ON OREGON HOMEOWNERS AND RENTERS ... \$106,000,000
(Source — Legislative Revenue Office, April 10, 1985)

The \$106 million dollar shift is a transfer from the losers (individuals) to the winners (businesses) in the **SALES TAX/PROPERTY TAX RELIEF GAME!**

THE SALES TAX package does not guarantee that property taxes would stay down. Oregonians could end up with property tax bills that are as high or higher than they are now — and be paying a 5% SALES TAX TO BOOT!

Submitted by: George W. Starr, Treasurer
NO SALES TAX LEAGUE
1313 S.E. 12 Avenue
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Measure No. 1 STATE OF OREGON

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

THE SALES TAX: 4 REASONS TO VOTE NO ON SEPTEMBER 17

1. **On average, Oregon families will pay more taxes if the sales tax plan is passed.** The sales tax plan will create a **shift** in the tax burden — off businesses and onto households. Homeowners and renters would pay out an estimated \$591 million in sales taxes, but would receive only \$485 million in combined property and income tax relief. The net result would be a \$106 million increase in the tax burden on Oregon households, an average increase of over \$100 per household!
2. **The sales tax is a regressive tax.** It hits low-income families hardest. Low-income families generally spend a greater percentage of their income on taxable purchases. High-income people tend to spend larger portions of their income on services and other non-taxable items. Wealthier people put some of their income into investments and savings; poorer people do not have this option. Under the 1985 sales tax plan, the percentage of family income paid in sales taxes by low-income families would be more than twice as high (4.2%) as that of wealthy families (1.7%)!
3. **The sales tax plan would cut into school funding.** Proponents of the sales tax argue that it is needed in order to stabilize funding for education. This is a worthwhile goal, but the sales tax plan does not achieve it. In fact, the sales tax plan would impose a 3% limit on the annual growth of the tax base for schools. Since the annual inflation rate is running at about 4%, this growth would actually **erode** the base of school funding! This is **not** the way to stabilize funding for education.
4. There is a provision in the sales tax plan which allows the Legislature to create further exemptions in 1987 **without voter approval!** This is a gaping loophole. If the sales tax passes, will the 1987 Legislature be able to resist the pressure from big money lobbyists to create special exemptions to benefit their special interests?

VOTE NO ON SEPTEMBER 17!

Submitted by: Janet M. Byrd
Oregon Fair Share
519 S.W. Third
Suite 409
Portland, Oregon 97204

(This space petitioned by 1,000 electors in accordance with ORS 251.255.)

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ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF OREGON OPPOSES THE SALES TAX

A Sales Tax Would Mean
More Oregonians Would
Pay More Taxes — Vote
NO on the Sales Tax

THE SALES TAX IS UNFAIR — The sales tax shifts the burden of taxation from those more able to pay to those less able to pay. It means that everytime a mother buys a pair of shoes for her child, she is going to pay a tax. Meanwhile, this measure gives millions of dollars in tax relief to Oregon's wealthiest individuals and largest corporations.

THE SALES TAX IS BAD FOR OUR SCHOOLS — This measure hurts the ability of our schools to raise revenue locally by limiting the growth rate of school districts' tax bases and limiting the number of times school districts can go to their local voters to request money. On the other hand, even though money raised by the sales tax is dedicated to property tax relief for school districts, there is no constitutional guarantee of equitable distribution of sales tax money. You and those in your school district could pay more in sales taxes to the state than you get back from the state in property tax relief.

OREGON JOBS WILL BE LOST — Each state on Oregon's borders has a sales tax. With a sales tax in Oregon out-of-state shoppers coming here to buy goods from Oregon businesses will no longer have any reason to do so. Workers at these businesses will lose their jobs adding to Oregon's already high unemployment rate.

SMALL BUSINESS IN OREGON WILL BE HURT BY A SALES TAX — Small businesses will lose competitively against big corporations. They have less flexibility than big corporations in making adjustments to recoup lost income resulting from the sales tax. Also, unlike big landholding corporations, many of which are owned and controlled by out-of-state interests, small businesses will get absolutely no tax relief from the sales tax because more often than not they rent the land and buildings where their businesses are located.

THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF OREGON IS OPPOSED TO THE SALES TAX BECAUSE IT IS A BAD TAX: IT IS UNFAIR, IT IS BAD FOR OUR SCHOOLS, AND IT MEANS MORE OREGONIANS WILL PAY MORE TAXES.

VOTE NO SALES TAX SEPTEMBER 17.

Submitted by: Gilbert B. Campbell, Chairperson
No Sales Tax Committee
Democratic Party of Oregon
1465 State St.
Salem, OR 97301

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Measure No. 1 STATE OF OREGON

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

Statement in Opposition to Oregon Sales Tax

Vote NO on Oregon Sales Tax

A Sales Tax is the most regressive, anti-working class, undemocratic form of taxation. A Sales Tax takes a bigger percentage of earned income bite from lower income families without regard for dependents, a lesser percentage charge against high incomes, and nothing from out of state owners of big corporations in Oregon.

**WHO WOULD BE THE BIGGEST WINNERS??

The out-of-state owners of the biggest corporations in Oregon. By directing Sales Tax revenue to straight reduction of property taxes, these biggest corporations would receive a windfall tax reduction, thus increasing their profits, which would largely go to out of state stockholders.

**WHO WOULD BE THE BIGGEST LOSERS??

Lower income working class people who would inevitably make up the property tax savings and the increased profits for the rich.

For true property tax relief for those who need it the most, we endorse the "Home Exemption and Renter Relief" plan.

For real help for the Oregon economy we must curb the approximately \$2 billion a year net loss of revenue from Oregon to the Pentagon. That loss was \$one thousand nine hundred million in 1983 alone (from SANE, a highly respected peace organization) that was not spent in Oregon for cars, homes, furniture, food, clothing, T.V.s, or anything else. While this net loss is nearly triple the projected net receipts from Sales Tax, the real loss to the Oregon economy is much greater, through the loss of the "recirculatory effect", that is, money spent in Oregon tends to get spent in Oregon again, money taken out is gone. On the other hand, Sales tax money adds nothing to the economic base, and, as stated above, lets profits go out of state.

Submitted by: Ed Hemmingson, District Organizer
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(This space purchased for \$300 in accordance with ORS 251.255.)

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ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

VOTE NO

The sales tax proposal is a very leaky bucket in which to carry relief to put out the property tax fire.

It is just another tax, with high administrative costs to be added to the existing costs of the other two tax systems, which will also continue. State-collected general fund taxes will increase by about one-half. And it carries the unfairness of being a tax based on the necessity to consume rather than the ability to pay principle.

Much of the new tax will be wasted before any net new tax relief is provided.

Several hundred new state employes will be added to audit farms and businesses and collect the new tax for a cost of at least \$12 million per year.

Retailers will keep \$17 million per year. Refunds of another \$19 million each year will be paid out and not available for relief. Governments will pay the new tax on some of their activities.

Current tax relief of \$170 a residence and \$85 for renters per year, which has been financed without the sales tax, will have been drastically reduced by separate action of the legislature. So another \$50 million of residential property tax relief, or more, is lost as a part of the overall legislative program of which the new sales tax is a part.

These costs and losses of existing relief, listed above, are nearly \$100 million a year.

Of the remaining "relief" about 10% will go to absentee owners of Oregon real property who live in another state or nation. People who live outside Oregon will reap nearly \$100 million a year in property tax relief where they have not sown.

Thus, at least \$200 million a year will never provide any new property tax relief for Oregonians.

An additional \$114 million a year will go without any strings or limits to pay increasing school costs. This will NOT, by definition in the constitutional amendment, be used to offset property taxes, nor will it be subject to the 6% annual growth limitation.

In short, over one-third of the new tax will not give any new property tax relief to Oregonians.

Income taxes are free to rise up even if this new tax is exacted. Property taxes for Cities and Counties are not reduced by this measure nor are they in any way limited from rising up and up.

The proposal will not stabilize school finances because the sales tax receipts are more sensitive to economic recessions than are the existing sources of school finance.

Submitted by: Edward N. Fadeley
State Senator, Dist. 21

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Measure No. 1 STATE OF OREGON

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

SURE YOUR TAXES ARE TOO HIGH . . .

Property taxes on homes have gone up and up over recent years. Now they are more than many people can afford.

BECAUSE YOU'RE PAYING SOMEBODY ELSE'S TAXES!

Taxes are higher on homes because large corporations don't pay their share. Many oil companies and utilities pay little or no corporate tax while your income tax goes up. Similarly, big business keeps its share of the property tax bill down while your share goes up.

GOVERNMENT SPENDING IS NOT TO BLAME

Services from government have been cut. Funding for schools is in trouble. But public spending has only gone up at about the same rate as inflation.

IT'S THE TAX SHIFT THAT COSTS YOU MONEY

Big business spends big money to lobby the Oregon Legislature. Over the years much of their property (business inventories and standing timber for example) has been exempted from property taxes. When they pay less, you pay more. That's the tax shift.

THE SALES TAX WOULD MAKE IT WORSE

Most of the sales tax money would come from individual taxpayers. Most of the property tax relief would go to large corporations, apartment building owners, and land speculators.

DON'T GIVE IN TO THE TAX LIMITATION THREAT

Tax limitation measures (1 1/2% etc.) have always been supported by many large corporations and out-of-state owners of Oregon property that will save the most money. They don't care if our schools and parks close. Now they want to scare you into voting for a sales tax as the only way to protect schools.

THE HOME EXEMPTION IS THE ANSWER

The real alternative is tax relief that targets average homeowners and renters. This is the only way to restore fairness to the tax system and protect vital government services. When you vote yes for the home exemption next year, you will save more on your property taxes — without a sales tax.

BEWARE THE BIG BUSINESS CAMPAIGN

The wealthy corporations, hiding behind respectable government leaders, can spend millions of dollars to sell you the sales tax. They will save much more than that in the first year. If you buy the sales tax, you'll keep paying more than your share.

Submitted by: Rhys Scholes, Director
CITIZENS FOR FAIR TAXES
P.O. Box 45
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a project of the Portland Local of
Democratic Socialists of America

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ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

SALES TAX: "NO!" HOME EXEMPTION: "YES"

Dear Oregonians:

Many Oregonians are worried. They've been told that unless the sales tax passes, Oregon schools will shut down and we'll lose our parks, fire departments, and police protection.

Don't be fooled! Oregon doesn't need this sales tax. Some property taxes may go down temporarily, but you'll wind up paying MORE in the long run. There's a better way to reduce property taxes.

THE HOME EXEMPTION ALTERNATIVE

In April a group of legislators and citizens launched the initiative petition campaign for the HOME EXEMPTION. The Home Exemption is the responsible alternative to the sales tax and the 1 1/2% limitation, which will mostly benefit big business and large commercial operations.

The Home Exemption is simple. Homeowners will get a \$25,000 exemption on the value of their homes, or 50%, whichever is less. Renters will get equivalent relief. In Oregon, the average home is valued at approximately \$58,000. For an average homeowner whose assessment is \$25 per \$1,000, the annual tax bill is over \$1,400. The Home Exemption will reduce that bill to about \$800, FOR A SAVINGS OF ABOUT \$600 PER YEAR!

The Home Exemption will provide property tax relief for those who really need it — homeowners and renters. Unlike the sales tax, it won't stick the people with an additional \$926 million in new taxes just to deliver a paltry \$361 million in homeowner and renter property tax relief.

OREGON NEEDS THE HOME EXEMPTION!

VOTE NO ON THE SALES TAX!

Sincerely,

State Senator Margie Hendriksen	State Senator Jan Wyers
State Senator Bill McCoy	State Senator Mae Yih
State Rep. Dave McTeague	State Senator Walt Brown
State Rep. Dick Springer	State Senator Edward Fadeley
State Rep. Larry Hill	

To help pass petitions for the Home Exemption contact:
THE OREGON HOME EXEMPTION COMMITTEE

610 SW Alder #606
Portland, Oregon 97205
Judy Wyers, Treasurer
Phone: 223-8760

Submitted by: Mike Bonner
The Oregon Home Exemption Committee

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Measure No. 1 STATE OF OREGON

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

Oregonians Sales Tax Losers

The sales tax would shift taxes from businesses onto most workers, retirees, small farmers, unemployed, small businesses, students and renters.

Sales Tax Balance Sheet: Increased Taxes on Individuals and Household†

— In Millions of Dollars —

How Losers Lose:	Individuals	Businesses	Tourists
• Taxes Shifted from Businesses	\$ 86.6	-\$113.6	\$ 27.0
• Special Timber Tax Reduction	2.6	2.6	.0
• Payment Towards Retailers Costs	11.8	6.1	.6
• Cost of 300-400 New Revenue Employees ...	7.6	4.0	.4
• Yearly Tax Change if Sales Tax Passes .	+\$108.6	-\$106.1	+\$ 28.0

† Data provided by the Legislative Revenue Office, Capitol Building

Payment of the sales tax would mean a reduction of not more than 23%, on the average, not 32% or 35% from our present property taxes. Why? Legislators have made it very clear: If the sales tax passes the \$170 property tax reduction homeowners *now* receive (\$85 for renters) would be eliminated. We say, "The \$25,000 Home Exemption measure is the answer to property tax relief for homeowners and renters."

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Portland, Oregon 97211

Vote "No" Tuesday, September 17, 1985

Submitted by: Wally Priestley
CONSUMERS OPPOSING THE
SALES TAX(C.O.S.T)
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Portland, Oregon 97213

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ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

106 MILLION REASONS TO VOTE "NO" ON THE 5% RETAIL SALES TAX

The proposed 5% retail sales tax will greatly increase the total tax burden on Oregonians.

This sales tax scheme will require that Oregon homeowners and renters pay out \$106 million more each year than they'll receive back in property and income tax relief.

Measure #1 will make Oregonians tax losers, not tax winners. Here are the facts and figures you won't find in the expensive TV and radio ads purchased by the sales tax winners.

- The Legislative Revenue Office at the State Capitol reports that Oregon homeowners and renters will pay 64% of the total \$926 million collected in the first year of the proposed sales tax. That equals \$591 million in new taxes.
- However, Oregon homeowners and renters will receive back only 54.2% of the \$895.5 million left over after deducting collection costs of \$30.5 million. That equals only \$485 million in new tax relief.
- The net increased tax burden on Oregonians in the first year — \$591 million less \$485 million — is \$106 million, and that's 106 million reasons for voting "NO".

Who will benefit from the extra \$106 million that Oregonians will shell out the first year? Here are just a few of the sales tax winners:

- Foreign corporations and investors own over 418,000 acres of Oregon agricultural land. They'll get a 35% cut in their Oregon property taxes but will pay no Oregon sales taxes overseas.
- California speculators own mobile home parks and rental properties in Oregon. They'll also get a 35% cut in their Oregon property taxes. But do you think they'll lower the rents charged to their Oregon tenants?
- Out-of-state corporations own The Oregonian, Portland General Electric, the Bank of Oregon and other companies. They will pay little in sales taxes but will get a 35% reduction in their Oregon property taxes.

Oregon small businesses will pay far more in sales taxes than they'll get back in property tax relief. The organization speaking for small business (National Federation of Independent Business) estimates that collecting the tax will cost 6.4¢ per dollar, but they will be reimbursed only 2¢ per dollar. Yet small businesses generate over 75% of all new jobs in Oregon.

With the third highest unemployment rate in the nation, Oregon can't afford to be unfair to our middle and lower income families. Don't make times harder by increasing the tax burden of Oregonians next year by an extra \$106 million in additional taxes.

Submitted by: STATE SENATOR WALT BROWN
3710 S.E. Concord Road #95
Milwaukie, Oregon 97222

Chairman:
Senate Agriculture & Forestry Committee
Member:
Senate Utility Rate Relief Committee
Governor's Commission on Senior Services
Oregon Democratic Party, Executive Committee
Oregon Consumer League
National Federation of Independent Business
(organization affiliations listed for identification only)

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ABSENT VOTER

IN-STATE ABSENT VOTER

You may apply for an absentee ballot with your county clerk if:

1. You are a registered voter, and
2. You have reason to believe you will be unable, for any reason, to vote at the polling place on election day.

Your application must be in writing and must include:

1. Your signature. (This is imperative, for comparison purposes.)
2. A statement as to why you will be unable to vote in person.
3. Your residence address.
4. The address to which the ballot should be mailed, if different from your residence.

YOUR APPLICATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY YOUR COUNTY CLERK NOT LATER THAN 8 P.M. THE DAY OF THE ELECTION.

If an elector is physically handicapped, the application is valid for every election held during the calendar year for which the application is received.

The first day county clerks could accept an absentee ballot application for the September 17th special election was July 19, 1985. Absentee ballots are delivered as soon as signatures are verified and the ballots are printed. Your ballot may be returned to the office of your county clerk by any appropriate means, but, if application is made by mail, be sure to allow enough time to receive the ballot and return it to your county clerk by 8 p.m. on the day of the election.

LONG TERM ABSENT VOTER

You may apply for long term absent voter status with your county clerk or the Secretary of State if:

1. You are a resident of this state absent from your place of residence, and
2. You are serving in the Armed Forces or Merchant Marine of the United States, or
3. You are temporarily living outside the territorial limits of the U.S. and the District of Columbia, or
4. You are a spouse or dependent of a long term absent voter. A spouse or dependent of a long term absent voter, not previously a resident of this state who intends to reside in this state, is considered a resident for voting purposes and may vote in the same manner as a long term absent voter.

Your application must be in writing and must include:

1. Your name and current mailing address.
2. A statement that you are a citizen of the U.S.
3. A statement that you will be 18 or older on the day of the election.
4. A statement that your home residence has been in this state for more than 20 days preceding the election, and giving the address of your last home residence.
5. A statement of the facts that qualify you as a long term absent voter.
6. A statement that you are not requesting a ballot from any other state and are not voting in any other manner than by absentee ballot.
7. A designation of your political affiliation if you wish to vote in a primary election.

The U.S. Department of Defense provides Standard Form 76 that complies with these requirements. It is recommended that long term absent voters use this form—available at embassies and military installations—whenever possible.

Your long term absentee ballot application will be valid for all elections held in the calendar year for which it is received.

Special absentee voting instructions and a ballot return envelope will accompany each absentee ballot.

REMEMBER, YOUR ABSENTEE BALLOT MUST BE RECEIVED BY YOUR COUNTY CLERK NO LATER THAN 8 P.M. THE DAY OF THE ELECTION.

ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION

PRECINCT NAME/NUMBER

TODAY'S DATE

ELECTION DATE

PRINT YOUR NAME CLEARLY

RESIDENCE STREET ADDRESS

CITY

COUNTY

ZIP

REASON FOR REQUEST:

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT (HANDWRITTEN)

IF YOU ARE IN THE HANDICAPPED OR SPECIAL VISUAL CATEGORY, CHECK HERE FOR FULL YEAR VALIDITY.

ADDRESS TO WHICH ABSENTEE BALLOT SHOULD BE SENT IF DIFFERENT FROM RESIDENCE ADDRESS:

STREET ADDRESS

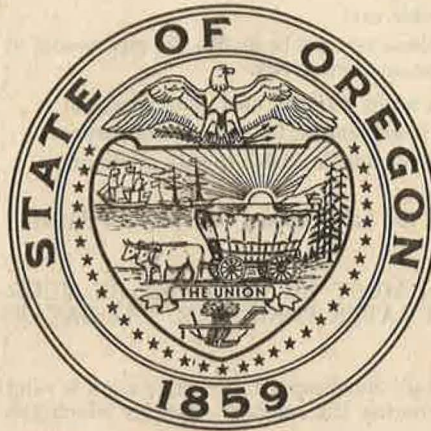
CITY

STATE

ZIP

MAIL THIS APPLICATION TO THE COUNTY CLERK OF THE COUNTY IN WHICH YOU MAINTAIN YOUR HOME RESIDENCE

VOTERS' PAMPHLET



This Voters' Pamphlet
is the personal property of
the recipient elector household
for assistance at the polls.

Barbara Roberts
Secretary of State
State Capitol
Salem, Oregon 97310

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