

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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