

30 March 2021

To: Senate Committee on Housing and Development  
Re: Senate Bill 852

Dear Chair Senator Jama, Vice-Chair Senator Linthicum, and members of the Committee:

Apparently this bill is designed to help alleviate the so-called "housing crisis" in Oregon. I am nonetheless opposed to SB 852 and urge the Committee to table it promptly. I am against this bill mainly because there are ample examples and evidence to show that our crisis in housing has in most instances been caused by the state itself, through over regulation.

Additionally, by eliminating deductions on earned income SB 852 is simply yet another way for the state to wheedle its way further into our pocket, to fix a problem of their own making. Everyone and their brother seeks to minimize their tax burden. What is wrong with that?

Contrary to the words of Justice Holmes, taxation is the price we pay for failing to build a civilized society. The higher the tax level, the greater the failure. A voluntary society would represent a successful state.

Just what precisely are the benefits of HB 852 to our average Oregonians? If the sponsors of this bill really wanted to help our citizens they would lower our taxes. And give us all of our *kicker*, not just part of it.

But the sponsors of this bill want us to pay more tax and - fund yet another program. Doesn't it dawn on anyone what continually increasing taxes and increasing spending leads to? As has been said before many times, we cannot tax our way to prosperity.

But perhaps that is not the goal? Not with legislature such as this being advocated.

Again, I urge the Committee to refuse to pass this increase on the burdens of Oregonians.

Sincerely,

Richard Wisner

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