

Submitter: laurie kimmell
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB712

ATTENTION: Chair Meek and Vice - Chair McLain

SUBJECT: Opposition for Senate Bill 712

1. I am in opposition to SB 712 puts a severe strain on disabled veterans and their surviving spouses. Some are on Veterans Administration (VA) disability and are severely disabled and cannot work. Some widows are living on \$995.00 a month. This bill comes into being in the current tax year. It will be difficult for these veterans to save up the extra money to pay their property taxes.
2. The Oregon disabled veterans property tx exemption is only ten percent. A veteran must have 40% disability to qualify.
3. SB 712 expropriates Ballot Measures #5 and #50.
 - a. Measure #5 was supported by the Willamette Week and passed by 52%. Ballot Measure #5 changed the overall tax burden and the trajectory of state spending.
4. SB 712 does the opposite:
 - a. SB 712 establishes a 3% raise in property tax assessments which will be market driven. (They promise that in a real estate turndown it will adjust. In 2008 with the market downturn the structure value was downgraded but, they raised the land value). Measures #5 & #50 kept the tax hikes down.
5. Oregonians rank #3 in the nation as the poorest due to high taxes and shrinking personal income.
6. Oregon state government ranked 4th biggest spending in the nation per capita for spending.

SB -712 introduces another raise in property tax which hits fixed incomes, the disabled, and the infirm which will take effect for this coming tax year. Those who have escrow accounts will not have the funds in their escrow accounts to cover.

Caveat: The Finance Director of Wood Village who gave a presentation was not cognizant in his presentation that Wood Village contracts with Multnomah Co. for law enforcement and other services. Deputies wages are not subject for the City of

Wood Village for approval and they do not negotiate law enforcement contracts. The extra funds derived from SB 712 would not go to LE. He was inaccurate.