

# SMART GROWTH COALITION

March 1, 2021

Chair Nancy Nathanson  
Vice-Chair E. Werner Reschke  
Vice-Chair Khanh Pham  
House Committee on Revenue  
Oregon State Legislature  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

*Sent electronically*

## **RE: Opposition to H.J.R. 13 (Property Tax Assessments)**

Dear Chair Nathanson, Vice-Chairs Reschke and Pham, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments on behalf of the Smart Growth Coalition in opposition to H.J.R. 13. The proposed constitutional amendment would effectively repeal the constitutional property tax assessment methods created by Measure 50 (1997), amounting to a substantial tax increase for many businesses and residents. While we do not outright reject the notion that Oregon's property tax system is deserving of reform, we believe any such reform should consist of proposals aimed at improving Oregon's competitiveness allowing it to attract and retain business investment. H.J.R. 13 not only fails to achieve these goals but undermines the state's efforts to attract new investment at a crucial point in our economic recovery. Thus, we respectfully ask the committee not to pursue this legislation.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss opportunities to reform our property tax system in ways that improve the competitiveness of our business climate, please contact us.

Sincerely,



Jeff Newgard  
Smart Growth Coalition