

Vote YES

On January 26th
Vote YES! to Protect
Rural Oregon



- **Vote YES** to restore fairness to our outdated, imbalanced tax system.
- **Vote YES** to protect education, public safety, and healthcare.
- **Vote YES** on January 26th.

For too long, large corporations have gotten away with paying just \$10 a year in Oregon income taxes, while average Oregon families and small businesses have had to pick up the tab of paying for schools and basic services. It's time for a change.

This January, there will be a special election on Measures 66 & 67 to increase the \$10 corporate minimum income tax for the first time since 1931, and increase the marginal tax rate on personal income above \$250,000 per household. These measures protect nearly \$1 billion for education, healthcare, and public safety.

Some large corporations and out-of-state special interests are preparing to spend millions opposing these measures, because they don't want to pay more than \$10 in income taxes.

Before you vote, consider this...

- **Over 90% of the state budget goes to vital services** like education, healthcare, public safety and human services – all of which are threatened by the economic crisis.
- 2/3rds of corporations doing business in Oregon pay **just \$10 a year** in income taxes. That includes out-of-state corporations that do millions of dollars in business in Oregon, and paid their CEOs millions in compensation, but paid no state taxes in 2008. The \$10 corporate minimum tax **hasn't been changed since 1931**.
- More than **98.5% of taxpayers** in most rural counties **won't be affected at all** by the proposed change to Oregon's personal tax.

Voting basics

- Voter **registration deadline is January 5th**. Register online at: www.sos.state.or.us/elections/votreg/sel500.pdf
- Ballots will be mailed out starting on January 8th.
- Remember to turn your ballot in by Tuesday, January 26th! Call the Benton County Election Office at 541-766-6756 to find out where the nearest drop box is!

Here's how you can help:

- Sign the **Pledge** to vote YES in January: www.rop.org
- Ask your friends and family to do the same!
- Call the Rural Organizing Project at 503-543-8417 or e-mail us at office@rop.org to find out what other folks are doing in your area to support Tax Fairness!

Contact the **Rural Organizing Project** to
Get the Facts about Tax Fairness:
www.rop.org * office@rop.org * 503-543-8417

The **Rural Organizing Project** exists to advance democracy in all of Oregon's rural counties.

On January 26th
Vote YES! for
Tax Fairness in

Benton County



Small Businesses Support Measures 66 & 67

As a small business owner I want to do my part to keep our essential services. I have always been a little embarrassed that I am paying the same \$10 dollar corporate tax that was paid in 1931. A \$150 fee is not one that will break the backs of any viable small business and it provides a chance for the corporations of our state to step up and make a contribution to health of the communities in which they reside.

-John Eveland
Gathering Together Farms
Philomath, OR

What do Measures 66 & 67 mean for Benton County?

Rural Oregon has been especially hard hit by the economic crisis. With unemployment rates consistently in the double digits, Oregon's rural communities can hardly afford further cuts to vital services.

Measures 66 and 67 keep our rural schools, health clinics, and senior facilities funded at adequate levels. And they make sure that rural Oregon's working and middle class families won't have to carry a disproportionate burden of the costs of maintaining these services. In fact:

- **In Benton County, the number of families receiving food stamps has increased by 20.6% over last year!**
- **Less than 2.7% of taxpayers in Benton County will be affected by the personal income tax increase.**
- **Of the 33,888 tax filers in Benton County, only the 930 wealthiest households will see their income tax levels raised.**

Measures 66 and 67 ensure that large corporations and the wealthy pay their fair share. These measures are one small step towards creating stronger, more democratic communities and resilient rural economies.

January 26th, 2010 Ballot Measures Advance Democracy

Ballot Measure	What it Does	Workable Solution?	Advances Democracy?
67	Increases the corporate minimum income tax from \$10 to \$150 and increases the marginal tax rate on corporate profits above \$250,000 by 1.3% (above \$10 million in 2013).	YES Will help avoid further cuts to vital services like schools, health care and public safety by ensuring corporations pay their fair share. Establishes reasonable corporate tax rates that are still the lowest on the west coast. Makes sure small businesses can survive these tough times.	YES Restores a level of fairness to our outdated and imbalanced tax system. Corporations that benefit from a well-educated populace and safe, livable communities contribute a fair share towards maintaining the common good.
66	Increases the marginal tax rate by 1.8% on personal income above \$250,000 for couples and above \$125,000 for individuals.	YES Like 67, this measure protects the common good by ensuring adequate funding for basic programs that benefit all, rather than shifting the burden of the economic crisis to those who have been hardest hit already.	YES A healthy democracy guarantees a reasonable standard of living for all Oregon families. Measures 66 and 67 fairly distribute the costs of maintaining a reasonable standard of living according to people's ability to pay.

