

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- **Vote YES** to restore fairness to our outdated, imbalanced tax system.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** by January 26th.

This January, there will be a special election on Measures 66 & 67 to protect funding for our schools and critical services. These measures will 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.

Some large corporations and out-of-state special interests have spent 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** 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 pay only \$10 in corporate taxes. 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.
- Measures 66 & 67 will give tax **relief to the unemployed**. The first \$2400 of unemployment benefits received in 2009 will not be subject to Oregon income tax.

Voting basics

- Voter **registration deadline is January 5th**. Register online at: www.sos.state.or.us/elections/votreg/se1500.pdf
- Ballots will be mailed out starting on January 8th.
- Remember to turn your ballot in by Tuesday, January 26th! Call the Hood River County Election Office at (541) 386-1442 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

Hood River County



Photo courtesy of Silvia Flores

Hood River Businesses Support Measures 66 & 67

"Rural people might want it both ways: to keep taxes low AND to benefit from critical services and programs that we all depend on, like good schools, senior facilities, and public safety.

In fact, this is something we can achieve - but only by restoring fairness to our tax system and making sure that profitable corporations pay their fair share along with the rest of us! Join us in voting YES on 66 & 67!"

--Mike Kitts and Tassie Mack, owners of MIKE's Ice Cream and The Ruddy Duck, Hood River, Oregon

What do Measures 66 & 67 mean for Hood River County?

Measures 66 and 67 keep our rural schools, health clinics, and senior facilities funded at adequate levels. Without these tax measures, working families in Hood River County will continue to feel the burden of this economic crisis. In fact:

- Over 1,450 people in Hood River County filed new unemployment claims in 2009.
- The number of families receiving food stamps in the county has increased by 15.6% over last year.
- Less than 3% of people in Hood River County will be affected by these measures.
- Of the over 9,400 tax filers in Hood River County, only the 236 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 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 C-corporations' profits above \$250,000 by 1.3 percentage points (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 percentage points 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.

